

Complaint to the Los Angeles Ethics Commission
regarding unregistered lobbying and a potential
violation of State conflict of interest laws by Rena Leddy

September 29, 2017

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1 Synopsis

1. In this complaint I allege that Rena Leddy, executive director of the Fashion District BID in Los Angeles, was compensated for more than 30 hours of lobbying activity over three months in 2017, that this triggered the lobbyist registration requirement in the Municipal Lobbying Ordinance, and that she failed to register.
2. I also argue that if Leddy was in fact required to register as a lobbyist then her employer, the Fashion District BID, was required to register as a lobbyist employer, which they have not done.
3. Finally, I argue that the fact that she serves on the board of directors of the Downtown Los Angeles Neighborhood Council at the same time that her employer pays her to influence the government of Los Angeles creates conflicts of interest in violation of State laws. This is especially troubling, and most clearly illegal, when she votes on motions in the neighborhood council that her employer has paid her to advocate for, a situation which has provably occurred at least once.

2 Jurisdiction

4. This complaint alleges violations of both the City's Municipal Lobbying Ordinance and the laws of the State of California governing conflicts of interest for public officials. The Los Angeles City Charter at [§706](#) grants the Ethics Commission the power and the duty to investigate such matters:

The commission shall conduct investigations of alleged violations of state law, the Charter and City ordinances relating to campaign financing, lobbying and conflicts of interest and governmental ethics.

3 Background

5. Business improvement districts ("BIDs") are a form of special assessment district in California. They're authorized and regulated by the [Property and Business Improvement District Act of 1994](#) ("PBID Law").
6. The Fashion District Business Improvement District ("FDBID") is a business improvement district ("BID") in the City of Los Angeles. Rena Leddy is the executive director of the FDBID. Technically her employer is the Downtown Los Angeles Property Owners' Association, which is a nonprofit corporation that contracts with the City of Los Angeles to manage the FDBID.
7. The Downtown Los Angeles Neighborhood Council ("DLANC") is a neighborhood council in the City of Los Angeles. The FDBID lies within the boundaries of DLANC. Rena Leddy is a member of the Board of Directors of DLANC ("DLANC Board").

4 Advocacy by Fashion District BID staff

4.1 Facts

8. On March 31, 2017 the board of directors of the FDBID met to set their future priorities. They overwhelmingly agreed that “advocacy” was their top priority. This is to include such City matters as:
 - (a) Public Space Management
 - (b) Pedestrian Experience
 - (c) DTLA 2040
 - (d) Vehicular/Bike/Pedestrian Connectivity
 - (e) Infrastructure

See [Exhibit 1](#) on page [21](#).

9. The anonymous author of this document expanded on the kinds of advocacy envisioned:

With DTLA 2040 on the horizon, the Fashion District needs to be fundamentally proactive in the future of the District. Zoning modifications, allocation of public resources to address infrastructure issues, public benefit priorities, grants and partnerships were all discussed as integral to the future.

10. According to this document, FDBID staff spend 40-60% of their time on advocacy.²

4.2 Conclusions

11. The PBID Law at [§36625\(a\)\(6\)](#) prohibits BIDs from spending money on activities outside their district.³ Thus it’s reasonable to conclude that the advocacy described above in [Section 4.1](#) has to do with City of Los Angeles matters.⁴
12. Assuming the minimum figure of 40% yields 16 hours per week of advocacy per FDBID staff member, or 64 hours per month. As stated above in [Paragraph 11](#), the law requires that such advocacy be restricted to City of Los Angeles matters. However, even correcting for potential advocacy unrelated to City of Los Angeles matters it’s highly likely even without a detailed analysis of time they spend lobbying that each FDBID staff member who engages in attempts to influence City matters engages in such activity for 10 hours per month.

² “The Board and staff understand the importance of advocacy in all of the work of the organization. They spend 40-60% of their time on building relationships and advocating on behalf of the Fashion District...”

³ “The revenue from the levy of assessments within a district shall not be used to provide improvements, maintenance, or activities outside the district...”

⁴ This restriction is occasionally ignored by BIDs. For instance, they will vigorously lobby the State Legislature with matters to do with BIDs and with other issues that concern them, e.g. homelessness. However, my experience shows that such advocacy constitutes a very small part of the activities of BIDs in general and of the FDBID in particular. Their advocacy has almost exclusively to do with City matters.

5 Rena Leddy's violations

5.1 Lobbying between March and May 2017

5.1.1 Background on specific issues

5.1.1.1 The Skid Row Neighborhood Council

13. In December 2016 the Skid Row Neighborhood Council-Formation Committee (“SRNC-FC”) applied to the Los Angeles City Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (“DONE”) for the formation of a Skid Row Neighborhood Council (“SRNC”). This effort was opposed by many Downtown property owners, who hired Liner LLP in the person of Rocky Delgadillo to lobby against it.
14. The proposed SRNC overlaps the boundaries of the FDBID, which opposed the formation effort in March 2017. As part of their opposition, the FDBID also lobbied the City to allow online voting in the SRNC formation election, to allow so-called “pop-up polls” for the election, and to postpone the election, which was scheduled for April 6, 2017.

5.1.1.2 FDBID Renewal

15. The Fashion District BID is due to renew on January 1, 2019. The process of renewing a BID includes, among other things, two separate ordinances that must be passed by the City Council. Due to the complexity of the renewal process BIDs usually hire an outside consultant to help guide the matter through the City bureaucracy, to prepare the materials necessary to secure Council’s approval, and to advocate for the successful renewal.
16. The FDBID’s consultant is Urban Place Consulting (“UPC”). Because the goal of the renewal process is to secure passage of two ordinances, the fact that both UPC and FDBID staff are compensated for their work on this matter means that they’re engaging in lobbying activity while doing so.

5.1.1.3 DTLA 2040

17. The City of Los Angeles is working on updating community plans for Downtown Los Angeles. The City has named this process “DTLA 2040.”⁵ Los Angeles city planner Bryan Eck is the DTLA 2040 contact person.
18. The new plan will determine what kinds of development projects will be allowed, encouraged, subsidized, or forbidden by the City. It is the subject of intense attempts to influence on the part of many groups, including the Central City Association of Los Angeles (“CCALA”). It is uncontroversial that compensated efforts to influence the content of DTLA 2040 are lobbying activity. For instance, CCALA regularly includes its work on this issue on its lobbying disclosure forms.

⁵ The details are described at <http://www.dtl2040.org/>.

19. At their 2017 retreat in March the FDBID board of directors identified advocacy on DTLA 2040 as one of the BID's highest priorities. The summary report stated:

With DTLA 2040 on the horizon, the Fashion District needs to be fundamentally proactive in the future of the District. Zoning modifications, allocation of public resources to address infrastructure issues, public benefit priorities, grants and partnerships were all discussed as integral to the future.

See [Exhibit 1](#) on page [21](#).

5.1.1.4 City Market South

20. City Market is a massive development project in the Fashion District, comprising multiple buildings and covering an entire City block. The first phase of the project is called “City Market South.” A project of this size requires innumerable approvals, entitlements, conditional use permits, and other discretionary permissions from the City, which are advocated for by, among many others, Rena Leddy.

21. Fashion District board member Mark Levy is the president of City Market South.⁶

5.1.2 Timeline of known lobbying activity between March and May 2017

5.1.2.1 March 2017

22. **March 10, 2017 10:00 - 11:30 a.m.** – Rena Leddy participated in CCALA’s DTLA 2040 working group meeting. See [Exhibit 13](#) on page [75](#) for a description of another DTLA 2040 meeting for evidence that attending these meetings counts as lobbying activity. Also see [See Exhibit 2](#) on page [26](#) (page 11 in the internal document numbering). Estimated time: **1.5 hours**.

23. **March 20, 2017 11:00 a.m.** – Rena Leddy participated in a conference call with Estela Lopez⁷ and Rocky Delgadillo to discuss the SRNC. See [Exhibit 2](#) on page [26](#) (page 13 in the internal document numbering). Estimated time: **1 hour**.

24. **March 20, 2017 11:44 a.m.** – Rena Leddy emailed Scott Yamabe⁸ about the SRNC, attaching a number of documents, including a letter by lobbyist Rocky Delgadillo to the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners (“BONC”) opposing the matter. See [Exhibit 3](#) on page [41](#). Estimated time: **0.125 hours**.

25. **March 20, 2017 12:24 p.m.** – Rena Leddy emailed a large group of FDBID property owners to inform them of the existence of the SRNC-FC and the upcoming election. In this email she encouraged them to oppose the formation effort, gave them talking points, and encouraged them to contact José Huizar in opposition. She also informed

⁶ See [City Market speeds Fashion District’s turn to booming downtown neighborhood](#) by Roger Vincent in the L.A. Times, September 8, 2017.

⁷ Executive director of the Central City East Association, another BID in Downtown Los Angeles.

⁸ A manager at the Los Angeles Flower District, which is part of the FDBID.

them of a BONC⁹ meeting that afternoon and encouraged them to come speak in opposition. See [Exhibit 4](#) on page 43. Estimated time: **0.125 hours**.

26. **March 20, 2017 1:00 p.m.** – Rena Leddy attended a meeting of the BONC and spoke in opposition to the SRNC. See [Exhibit 5](#) on page 45 (see item 11 on page 4 in the internal document numbering). Estimated time: **1.75 hours**.¹⁰
27. **March 20, 2017 4:41 p.m.** – Rena Leddy emailed FDBID Board member Debbie Welsch thanking her for sending a template for an opposition letter to José Huizar and stating that she would distribute it to the other Board members. See [Exhibit 6](#) on page 54. Estimated time: **0.125 hours**.
28. **March 24, 2017 10:00 - 11:30 a.m.** – Rena Leddy participated in CCALA's DTLA 2040 working group meeting. See [Exhibit 13](#) on page 75 for a description of another DTLA 2040 meeting for evidence that attending these meetings counts as lobbying activity. Also see [Exhibit 2](#) on page 26 (page 13 in the internal document numbering) for the date and time of this meeting. Estimated time: **1.5 hours**.
29. **March 29, 2017** – Rena Leddy was introduced to Tim Fremaux of the Los Angeles Department of Transportation (“LADOT”) by Nate Hayward, Public Projects manager for CD14 representative José Huizar. Leddy subsequently organized a meeting with Fremaux and Estela Lopez to discuss bike lanes on San Pedro Street. See [Exhibit 7](#) on page 57. See [Exhibit 10](#) on page 66 for a description of the content of the meeting, making it clear that it constituted lobbying activity. Estimated time: **0.25 hours**.
30. **March 29, 2017** – Rena Leddy was quoted in an article in Urbanize.la about the SRNC, showing that she was interviewed by a reporter on this matter. See [Exhibit 8](#) on page 60.¹¹ Estimated time: **0.5 hours**.
31. **March 30, 2017 10:30 - 11:30 a.m.** – Rena Leddy spoke with UPC about the ongoing FDBID renewal process. See [Section 5.1.1.2](#) on page 6 for the argument that this is lobbying activity. See [Exhibit 2](#) on page 26 (page 14 in the internal document numbering). Estimated time: **1 hour**.
32. **March 31, 2017 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.** – Rena Leddy attended the FDBID board retreat. This included setting an advocacy agenda, soliciting the opinions of board members on what issues the FDBID staff should advocate, positions to be taken on these issues, and so on. See [Exhibit 1](#) on page 21 and [Exhibit 2](#) on page 26 (page 14 in the internal document numbering). Estimated time: **5 hours**.

⁹ Which she erroneously referred to as DONE in this email.

¹⁰ The meeting began at 1:00 p.m. It's likely that Rena Leddy was present at the beginning because it's hard to know when a particular item will be called. The minutes show that this item was called at 1:55 p.m. and finished with at 2:40 p.m.

¹¹ I only included the first two pages here in order to save space. The complete original article is: [Voting Begins for Skid Row Neighborhood Council Petition](#).

5.1.2.2 April 2017

33. **April 6, 2017 12 noon - 1:30 p.m.** – Rena Leddy attended a CCALA Executive committee meeting with Los Angeles City Attorney Mike Feuer in attendance to discuss City policy toward homeless people and other related City matters. See [Exhibit 2](#) on page [26](#) (page 15 in the internal document numbering) for the time and [Exhibit 10](#) for the content. Estimated time: **1.5 hours**.
34. **April 11, 2017 2:30 - 3:30 p.m.** – Rena Leddy met with Tim Fremaux of LADOT to discuss bike lanes on San Pedro Street. See [Exhibit 7](#) on page [57](#). See [Exhibit 10](#) on page [66](#) for a description of the content of the meeting, making it clear that it constituted lobbying activity. See [Exhibit 2](#) on page [26](#) (page 16 in the internal document numbering). Estimated time: **1 hour**.
35. **April 12, 2017 12:00 noon - 1:30 p.m.** – Rena Leddy met with Downtown Los Angeles neighborhood prosecutor Kurt Knecht. See [Exhibit 2](#) on page [26](#) (page 16 in the internal document numbering) for proof of meeting. The subject of the meeting is not given, but in early April 2017 Knecht was working closely with the FDBID and its neighbor, the Downtown Industrial District BID, on shaping LAPD enforcement against homeless people blocking sidewalks. An example of the issues at stake in this discussion may be found in [Exhibit 9](#) on page [63](#). Sidewalk blocking by the homeless is one of the advocacy priorities established by the FDBID board at its March 31 retreat. See [Paragraph 8](#) above, where it is called “Public Space Management.” It’s also possible that this is the meeting described in [Exhibit 10](#) under the heading “Neighborhood Prosecutor Meeting.” If so, it clearly constitutes lobbying activity. According to that document, they:

... discussed issues that are impacting the Fashion District such as the future of marijuana clinics, homeless encampments and sidewalk access. We will be meeting again to get more involved in any zoning or regulations related to the new laws legalizing marijuana and where shops will be located.

Estimated time: **1.5 hours**.

36. **April 21, 2017** – Rena Leddy wrote a formal position letter expressing the FDBID’s approval of proposed bike lanes on San Pedro Street. See [Exhibit 11](#) on page [69](#). Estimated time: **0.5 hours**.
37. **April 21, 2017 1:30 - 2:30 p.m.** – Rena Leddy participated in a phone call having to do with the FDBID’s renewal. See [Section 5.1.1.2](#) on page [6](#) for the argument that this is lobbying activity. See [Exhibit 2](#) on page [26](#) (page 17 in the internal document numbering). Estimated time: **1 hour**.
38. **April 26, 2017 8:30 - 10:00 a.m.** – CCALA homeless policy meeting. This is one of FDBID’s advocacy issue, and at these meetings Rena Leddy and the CCALA discuss talking points, strategies, and so on. See [Exhibit 2](#) on page [26](#) (page 18 in the internal document numbering). While I don’t have a description of what took

place at this particular homeless policy meeting, there is a description of one from February¹² which shows that this is clearly lobbying activity. See [Exhibit 10](#) on page [66](#). Estimated time: **1.5 hours**.

39. **April 27, 2017 10:00 - 11:30 a.m.** – Fashion District Renewal Committee meeting. See [Section 5.1.1.2](#) on page [6](#) for the argument that this is lobbying activity. See [Exhibit 2](#) on page [26](#) (page 18 in the internal document numbering). Estimated time: **1.5 hours**.
40. **April 28, 2017 10:00 - 11:30 a.m.** – Rena Leddy and three FDBID board members participated in CCALA's DTLA 2040 working group meeting. See [Exhibit 13](#) on page [75](#) for a description of this meeting for evidence that it counts as lobbying activity. Just for instance:

Bryan Ek, the City Planner charged with the Community Plan update was in attendance and he welcomed our comments regarding the changes to the District. We also expressed that while parking requirements might be going away for new developers, small businesses will still need to be supported by creating accessible parking. We encouraged the City to include shared public parking garages, like those found in Old Pasadena or Santa Monica.

Also see [Exhibit 2](#) on page [26](#) (page 18 in the internal document numbering) for the date and time of the meeting. Estimated time: **1.5 hours**.

5.1.2.3 May 2017

41. **May 2, 2017 11:00 - 11:30 a.m.** – Rena Leddy attended a Conditional Use Permit hearing for the City Market South project.¹³ That she spoke in favor of City Market South's position is stated in [Exhibit 13](#) on page [75](#):

Rena attended two public hearings in support of the City Market South project.

See [Exhibit 2](#) on page [26](#) (page 19 in the internal document numbering) for the date and time. Estimated time: **0.5 hours**.

42. **May 17-23, 2017** – Between May 17 and May 23 Rena Leddy exchanged emails with city planner Bryan Eck, who is presently in charge of the DTLA 2040 project, about setting up a meeting between him and property owners in the Fashion District. I don't have evidence of the content of the intended meeting, but given that advocacy on DTLA 2040 was determined by the FDBID board of directors to be one of their highest priorities (see [Section 5.1.1.3](#) for evidence of this) it's certain that a, if not the, purpose of the meeting was to influence the DTLA 2040 process, so that arranging

¹² I believe the meeting described there took place in February, but the date isn't important for the validity of the description.

¹³ See [Section 5.1.1.4](#) on page [7](#) for a description of this issue.

the meeting is lobbying activity. See [Exhibit 12](#) on page [71](#) for the email exchange. Estimated time: **0.25 hours.**¹⁴

43. **May 17, 2017 10:30 - 11:30 a.m.** – Rena Leddy attended another hearing for the City Market South project.¹⁵ That she spoke in favor of City Market South's position is stated in [Exhibit 13](#) on page [75](#):

Rena attended two public hearings in support of the City Market South project.

See [Exhibit 2](#) on page [26](#) (page 21 in the internal document numbering) for the date and time. Estimated time: **1 hour.**

44. **May 17, 2017 12 noon - 12:30 p.m. and May 23, 2017 2:00 - 2:30 p.m.** – On both of these days Rena Leddy met with Vanessa Kanegai. Kanegai is a vice president of [Wagstaff Worldwide](#), a “travel and hospitality marketing” firm. See [Exhibit 14](#) on page [79](#). The first meeting is labeled “Re: City Market” in Leddy’s calendar and the second is labeled “City Market South L.A. Times Article Prep (Conf Call) – Vanessa Kanegai.” It appears that Leddy was doing press relations in support of City Market South, which is lobbying activity. See [Exhibit 2](#) on page [26](#) (pages 21 and 22 in the internal document numbering). Estimated time: **1 hour.**

45. **May 17, 2017 2:30 - 3:30 p.m.** – Rena Leddy was interviewed by Deborah Belgum of Apparel News on development in the Fashion District including, in particular, City Market South. The resulting article appeared on May 25.¹⁶ This interview constitutes press relations in support of the BID’s pro-development agenda and its issue advocacy concerning homelessness and street vending. See [Exhibit 15](#) on page [81](#). Estimated time: **1 hour.**

46. **May 19, 2017 10:00 - 11:30 a.m.** – Rena Leddy participated in CCALA’s DTLA 2040 working group meeting. See [Paragraph 40](#) on page [10](#) above for evidence that this is lobbying activity. See [Exhibit 2](#) on page [26](#) (page 21 in the internal document numbering) for the date and time of the meeting. Estimated time: **1.5 hours.**

47. **May 25, 2017 10:00 - 11:30 a.m.** – Fashion District Renewal Committee meeting. See [Section 5.1.1.2](#) on page [6](#) for the argument that this is lobbying activity. See [Exhibit 2](#) on page [26](#) (page 22 in the internal document numbering). Estimated time: **1.5 hours.**

48. **May 26, 2017 3:00 - 3:30 p.m.** – Rena Leddy was interviewed by Roger Vincent of the Los Angeles Times about City Market South. According to Leddy’s calendar entry, Vanessa Kanegai was involved in this interview somehow (see [Paragraph 44](#) above for context). Roger Vincent published an article on City Market South in the L.A. Times

¹⁴ Note that the meeting itself took place in June 2017, which is outside the three months covered by this report.

¹⁵ See [Section 5.1.1.4](#) on page [7](#) for a description of this issue.

¹⁶ [Leading the Los Angeles Fashion District in a New Era](#) by Deborah Belgum in Apparel News

on September 8, 2017.¹⁷ I have no way to determine if this is the result of his interview with her, but irrespective of that her interview with Vincent constitutes lobbying activity for the City Market South project. See [Exhibit 2](#) on page [26](#). Estimated time: **0.5 hours**.

49. **May 31, 2017 8:30 - 10:00 a.m.** – Rena Leddy participated in CCALA's DTLA 2040 working group meeting. See [Paragraph 40](#) on page [10](#) above for evidence that this is lobbying activity. See [Exhibit 2](#) on page [26](#) (page 23 in the internal document numbering) for the date and time of the meeting. Estimated time: **1.5 hours**.

¹⁷ [City Market speeds Fashion District's turn to booming downtown neighborhood](#) by Roger Vincent in the Los Angeles Times on September 8, 2017.

5.1.3 Tabular summary of lobbying chronology

March 2017	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Total Hours
Date Hours Paragraph(s)				1	2	3	4	
Date Hours Paragraph(s)	5	6	7	8	9	10	11 1.5 22	1.5
Date Hours Paragraph(s)	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	
Date Hours Paragraph(s)	19	20 3.125 23–27	21	22	23	24	25 1.5 28	4.625
April 2017	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Total Hours
Date Hours Paragraph(s)	26	27	28	29 0.75 29,30	30 1 31	31 5 32	1	6.75
Date Hours Paragraph(s)	2	3	4	5	6 1.5 33	7	8	1.5
Date Hours Paragraph(s)	9	10	11 1 34	12 1.5 35	13	14	15	2.5
Date Hours Paragraph(s)	16	17	18	19	20	21 1.5 36,37	22	1.5
Date Hours Paragraph(s)	23	24	25	26 1.5 38	27 1.5 39	28 1.5 40	29	4.5
May 2017	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Total Hours
Date Hours Paragraph(s)	30	1	2 0.5 41	3	4	5	6	0.5
Date Hours Paragraph(s)	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
Date Hours Paragraph(s)	14	15	16	17 3.25 42–45	18	19 1.5 46	20	4.75
Date Hours Paragraph(s)	21	22	23	24	25 1.5 47	26 0.5 48	27	2.0
Date Hours Paragraph(s)	28	29	30	31 1.5 49				1.5
Grand Total								31.625

5.1.4 Conclusions

50. As shown above in [Section 5.1.2](#), between March and May 2017 Rena Leddy engaged in at least 30 hours of compensated lobbying activity including contacts with City

officials in attempts to influence municipal legislation.

51. Some of the times used above to argue that Leddy met the 30 hour registration requirement are estimates. However, as shown above in [Section 4](#), Fashion District staff claim that they spend a minimum of 40% of their time doing advocacy. Thirty hours over three months is only 6.25% of the 480 hours constituting a full-time schedule. Thus even if the times associated with the particular instances of advocacy that I've managed to identify are wrong, it's implausible by her own admission that Leddy didn't engage in at least 30 compensated hours over the three months in question.
52. Leddy failed to register with the CEC as a lobbyist based on her work between March and May 2017 and so was in violation of the MLO.
53. If Leddy was required to register as a lobbyist then her employer, the Fashion District BID,¹⁸ was required by the MLO to register as a lobbyist employer. They have not done so and so are in violation of the MLO.

5.2 Conflict of interest

5.2.1 Laws

5.2.1.1 Neighborhood council board members and conflict of interest

54. According to the Los Angeles City Attorney, NC board members are bound by common-law conflict of interest rules developed by the California judiciary. This advice sheet for NC board members states that:

Board members of neighborhood councils who are given government decision-making authority, must comply with the following conflict of interest laws:
... the common-law conflict of interest rules.

See [Exhibit 20](#) on page [105](#) (page 1 in the internal document numbering).¹⁹

55. According to the Los Angeles City Attorney, “government decision-making authority” in this context means such things as:

... hiring staff, entering into contracts for goods or services or control over funds in the City budget.

See [Exhibit 20](#) on page [105](#) (page 2 in the internal document numbering).

56. According to the Los Angeles City Attorney, these conflict of interest laws apply even for advisory recommendations made by neighborhood councils:

¹⁸ Her employer is actually the Downtown Los Angeles Property Owners Association rather than the BID itself, as discussed above in [Paragraph 6](#) on page [4](#)

¹⁹ I only included the first two pages for the sake of space. The entire document is available [here](#).

Once a neighborhood council board member has been delegated the authority to make “governmental decisions,” as enumerated above, on behalf of its neighborhood council, even the member’s votes on “non-governmental” or purely advisory recommendations will be subject to the conflict-of-interest provisions.

See [Exhibit 20](#) on page [105](#) (page 2 in the internal document numbering).

57. The City Attorney states specifically that these laws apply to advisory recommendations to city Planning Commissions:

... a board member who makes “governmental decisions” must also be cognizant of, and comply with, the disqualification rules even when making a purely advisory recommendation, for example, to a City Council Committee or Area Planning Commission regarding a conditional use permit for a project located within the boundaries of that Neighborhood Council.

See [Exhibit 20](#) on page [105](#) (page 2 note 3 in the internal document numbering).

5.2.1.2 Common law conflict of interest prohibitions

58. California common law conflict of interest prohibitions seem to rely on a principle stated in [Noble v. City of Palo Alto](#)²⁰ to the effect that:

A public officer is impliedly bound to exercise the powers conferred on him with disinterested skill, zeal, and diligence and primarily for the benefit of the public

59. Also on a principle stated in [Nasha LLC v. City of Los Angeles](#)²¹ to the effect that:

The essential issue presented is whether the Planning Commission’s decision should be set aside due to an unacceptable probability of actual bias on the part of one of the decisionmakers. While this matter was pending before the Planning Commission, one of its members authored an article attacking the project under consideration. Accordingly, Nasha’s claim of bias is well founded.

60. These principles are interpreted by the [Institute for Local Government](#) as follows:²²

When an official is affiliated with a nonprofit organization that has strongly held views on a matter, the official should consult with agency counsel about whether the official will be acting in a quasi-judicial capacity. If so, the official should ask him or herself if he or she can truly be fair in applying the policies

²⁰ 89 Cal.App. 47 (Cal. Ct. App. 1928)

²¹ 125 Cal. App. 4th 470; 22 Cal. Rptr. 3d 772; 2004

²² In the ILG’s [Commitment to Nonprofit Causes and Public Service Conflict of Interest and Bias](#), which is a self-study publication for the State of California’s mandated ethics training for public officials.

to the specific situation. If not, stepping aside satisfies ones legal and ethical obligations.

Even if one feels one can be fair, theres another step of the analysis in terms of whether the applicant and others will perceive the official as fair. Has the official made statements that suggest that the official has pre-judged the matter? Is there evidence that could be presented to a court to suggest bias? If so, it may be wise to step aside from the decisionmaking process.

5.2.2 Facts

5.2.2.1 Rena Leddy represents the FDBID on DLANC

61. The bylaws of DLANC²³ specifically include the staff of BIDs as “business stakeholders.” There is one seat on the DLANC board reserved for a business stakeholder from the Fashion District.
62. Rena Leddy ran for this seat in March 2016. Her candidacy was announced at a FDBID Board meeting by Kent Smith, who was the executive director at that time. He stated that: “... property owners/tenants should make sure they vote.” See [Exhibit 16](#) on page [86](#) (specifically item 11).
63. Her candidacy was discussed again before the FDBID Board of Directors in April 2016. It was stated explicitly at this time as part of a solicitation for votes in her favor that she would be representing the FDBID on the DLANC Board.²⁴ See [Exhibit 17](#) on page [89](#).
64. By May 2016 Leddy had been elected to the DLANC Board. This was announced before the FDBID Board on May 19 and it was again stated that she would be representing the BID on the DLANC Board.²⁵ See [Exhibit 18](#) on page [91](#).

5.2.2.2 City Market South

65. In her capacity as FDBID executive director, Rena Leddy has advocated in favor of City Market South. See [Paragraph 41](#), [Paragraphs 42–45](#), and [Paragraph 48](#) above. Note that all of this advocacy took place in May 2017.
66. In June 2017 an application by City Market South to the Los Angeles Department of City Planning for various discretionary permissions came before the DLANC Board of Directors. The motion was for DLANC to submit a letter of support for the application.

²³ The bylaws are available on Archive.Org here:

<https://archive.org/download/DLANCBylaws/DLANC%20Approved%20Bylaw%20Amendments%20072015D.pdf>. I'm not including them in this document in order to save space.

²⁴ “Rena Leddy, LA Fashion District BID Managing Director, is running for the Downtown Neighborhood Council’s business seat, representing the BID.”

²⁵ “In a contested race, Rena Leddy, LA Fashion District BID Managing Director, won the Neighborhood Council’s business seat, representing the BID. She begins representing the business community at the July Meeting.”

This motion was one of a number of such motions seeking letters of support. A board member moved that all the applications be bundled. Rena Leddy seconded this motion. The board then unanimously approved all letters of support including the one for City Market South. See [Exhibit 19](#) on page [93](#). Specifically see item (d)(ii) on page 7 in the original document numbering.²⁶

5.2.2.3 Rena Leddy makes government decisions as a member of DLANC's board

67. On June 13, 2017 the DLANC board, including Rena Leddy, voted to approve an expenditure of \$783.20. This is an exercise of control over City funds.

5.2.3 Conclusions

68. Because Rena Leddy makes government decisions as a member of DLANC's board,²⁷ she is, according to the Los Angeles City Attorney,²⁸ subject to State conflict of interest prohibitions with respect to advisory decisions made by DLANC's board, including the June 2017 motion on an application by City Market South for various entitlements.²⁹
69. Leddy "represents" the FDBID, a non-profit "with strongly held views" on the City Market South matter, on DLANC³⁰ and is also employed by the FDBID to advocate with the City in favor of City Market South. She carried out significant advocacy in May 2017 prior to voting in favor of a letter of support for City Market South.³¹ This casts significant doubt on her ability to deliberate without bias on this particular issue in her role with DLANC.
70. Leddy's failure to recuse herself is therefore a violation of conflict of interest prohibitions which apply to her as a member of DLANC.

5.2.4 Other considerations

71. It's at least possible that Rena Leddy's dual role as a paid advocate for the FDBID and as a member of the DLANC board of directors violates other conflict of interest prohibitions, such as the Political Reform Act's prohibition against government officials participating in decisions in which they have a financial interest. I am not sufficiently well-versed in this law to make a case either for or against the position that she did indeed violate this or other similar laws. However, I hope the CEC will look into this aspect of the case if it seems to the experts to have merit.

²⁶ Note that in the vote approval tally Rena Leddy's name is followed by the notation "(alt.)" This typically means that an alternate voted instead of the Board member. In this case, though, Leddy's physical presence is proved by the fact that she seconded the motion to bundle (see p. 10 in the original document numbering). Leddy was late to the meeting, which may be why she was erroneously labeled "(alt.)"

²⁷ See [Paragraph 5.2.2.3](#).

²⁸ See [Section 5.2.1.1](#).

²⁹ See [Section 5.2.2.2](#).

³⁰ See [Section 5.2.2.1](#).

³¹ See [Section 5.2.2.2](#).

5.3 Speculations on the idea of DLANC board membership as lobbying activity

72. Part of DLANC's mission is:

To facilitate communication between the City and Community Stakeholders on issues of concern to the community and/or the Stakeholders.

See [DLANC Bylaws](#) page 4 paragraph II.A.3.

73. DLANC's policies include:

- c. Representing community interests in dealings with the City of Los Angeles and other government jurisdictions;
- d. Monitoring and communicating with City employees and departments that serve Downtown;
- f. Consulting with City officials regarding development plans Downtown;

See [DLANC Bylaws](#) page 5 paragraph II.B.7.

74. These activities are clearly lobbying activities under LAMC 48.02 if someone is paid to do them.

75. As argued above in [Section 5.2.2.1](#), Rena Leddy's membership on the DLANC board is part of her job with the FDBID. She is paid by FDBID to advocate for certain positions, e.g. City Market South entitlements, and she carries out that advocacy via DLANC.

76. Thus it's not implausible to consider her work on DLANC as lobbying activity for purposes of triggering the MLO's registration requirement. However, as I'm sure this is a novel theory, I thought it would be best not to rely on it as an essential part of my case, described in [Section 5.1](#), that Leddy was required to register as a lobbyist.

6 Requested action

77. I request that the Ethics Commission investigate Rena Leddy's paid advocacy during March, April, and May 2017 to determine whether or not she was required by the MLO to register as a lobbyist.

78. If the Ethics Commission finds that she was required to register I ask that Rena Leddy's employer, the FDBID, be investigated to determine whether they are required to register as a lobbyist employer.

79. I ask that the Ethics Commission investigate Rena Leddy's dual role as an employee of the FDBID and as a member of the DLANC board to determine whether she violated State conflict of interest prohibitions by voting in favor of a letter of support for City Market South after she had been compensated by her employer to advocate in favor of the issue.

80. I ask that the Ethics Commission consider whether or not the facts I've reported here might mean that Leddy has violated other State and/or City prohibitions against public officials acting with a conflict of interest.
81. I ask that the Ethics Commission issue a determination as to whether Leddy's work as a member of the DLANC board of directors constitutes lobbying activity as defined in the MLO.

7 Exhibits

7.1 Exhibit 1 – March 31, 2017 Fashion District BID Board Retreat Summary

Fashion District
Board of Directors Retreat
SUMMARY
March 31, 2017

On March 31, 2017, the Board of Directors of The Downtown Fashion District held a Board Retreat. Objectives of the retreat included:

- Reflect on the work and progress of the organization;
- Consider priorities for the future; and
- Establish a Vision for the District.

The retreat was facilitated by Kathleen Rawson, CEO of Downtown Santa Monica.

Workshop attendees, including Fashion District Board and Staff members, included:

Board Members	Staff Members	Guests
Mark Chatoff	Ariana Gomez	Barry Gold
Laurie Sale	Jasmine Ramos	I Hassan
Laurie Rosen	Jackie Sanchez	
Linda Becker	Randall Tampa	
Mark Levy	Rena Leddy	
Jessica Lewensztain		
Brad Luster		
Steve Hirsh		
John Remeny		
Elisa Keller		
Matthew Haverim		

The agenda for the workshop included:

1. Goals and Objectives for the Day
2. Review of an online and telephone surveys of board and staff priorities
3. Discussion: Brainstorm on issues and advocacy and determine priorities
4. Discussion: Tactics to advance top priorities

A summary of all discussion items follows.

ISSUES & PRIORITIES

Kathleen summarized the outcome of the telephone and on line surveys taken in advance of the retreat. Following that summary, the group was asked to review and expand the list of priorities. The Fashion District should focus on moving into renewal and the next generation of the District. The list included:

- Clean and Safe are two programs, not one
- Marketing (Consumer, economic development, acknowledgement of changes)
- DTLA 2040
- Advocacy
- Budget
- Residential
- Social services
- Vision
- Pedestrian, vehicular connectivity
- Infrastructure
- District center – identify core
- Managing uses
- Public space management
- Acknowledge and create diverse neighborhood: “We never go back the way we came, find a different route”

After developing and discussing a list of ideas, each participant was provided with five votes to apply to priorities. Votes could be applied cumulatively, individually or in any combination. Results follow:

PRIORITIES: TACTICS FOR MOVING FORWARD

The Board discussed tactics to advance each of the priority actions.

1. ADVOCACY

Taken together, advocacy issues are the overall top priority of the organization with 23 votes .

ADVOCACY	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Public Space Management• Pedestrian Experience• DTLA 2040• Vehicular/Bike/Pedestrian Connectivity• Infrastructure	23 Votes
CLEAN AND SAFE	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Increased cleanliness throughout the District• Homelessness/Anti-Social Behaviors• Real and Perceived Issues of Safety and Wellbeing	16 Votes
MARKETING	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Consumer Marketing• Events/Social Media• Economic Development Marketing• Research (i.e. sales data, ped counts etc.)• Branding/Identity• Educational opportunities for Brokers, Owners and Businesspeople	17 Votes

The Board and staff understand the importance of advocacy in all of the work of the organization. They spend 40-60% of their time on building relationships and advocating on behalf of the Fashion District and see it as a key tool in some of the more fundamental issues facing the future.

With DTLA 2040 on the horizon, the Fashion District needs to be fundamentally proactive in the future of the District. Zoning modifications, allocation of public resources to address infrastructure issues, public benefit priorities, grants and partnerships were all discussed as integral to the future.

Action: The Board will create an ADVOCACY AGENDA outlining the main issues to pursue and dedicate time and resources to the effort.

2. CLEAN AND SAFE PROGRAM

The Board is increasingly concerned about the lack of funds to provide key clean and safe services. Over the years there has been little or no increase in assessments paid by property owners, therefore the program has suffered due to lack of funds. It was clearly acknowledged that the services were exceptional given the budget, however the re-investment is now more important than ever. In addition, the increase in anti-social behavior and issues related to street living further burdens the limited budget

Action: The Board sees the increase in assessment for these services as crucial to the future of the District, and will work with the property owner community in the renewal process to explain and encourage support for an expanded effort.

3. MARKETING

There was significant discussion on Marketing in the district, and general consensus that the BID should have a marketing plan to address both consumer and branding, as well as economic development marketing tools and programs. Again, the Board was willing to help the broader community understand these efforts as essential for the future of the District. Ideas included:

- Assemble data and market information to provide a nuanced understanding of downtown's markets, sub-markets, opportunities and challenges. Create a "State of the Fashion District" tool for economic development efforts.
- Consider specialized data collection options such as pedestrian counters
- Bring owners, brokers, tenants and others involved with the marketplace into discussions on what is best for the District.
- Conduct a Brand Study and Identity
- Continue and enhance consumer marketing via social media and other more traditional approaches.

Action: Create a Brand marketing plan and dedicate time and resources to implement the plan.

STATEMENT OF VISON EXERCISE

With the priorities of the organization clearly laid out, the discussion then moved to the overall vision and vision statement for the District. The Board came up with a list of words and phrases to help identify the aspirational vision of the District.

Those terms included:

Dynamic economic zone
Neighborhood feel
Educational Initiatives
Eat, live, play, work friendly
Creative hub
Diversity of workers – culturally
Authentic DTLA experience
Restaurants/entertainment district
Build a community

Possible Vision Statements could include:

THE FASHION DISTRICT IS A CULTURALLY, SOCIALLY AND ECONOMICALLY DIVERSE COMMUNITY WITH RICH HERITAGE IN THE FASHION INDUSTRY; A DISTRICT THAT IS EVOLVING INTO A FUTURE THAT WILL INCLUDE RESIDENTIAL AND CREATIVE OPPORTUNITES WHILE MAINTAINING ITS ROOTS OF FASHION.

7.2 Exhibit 2 – Rena Leddy’s appointment calendar March through May 2017

February 27, 2017 - March 5, 2017

February 2017						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
			1	2	3	4
	5	6	7	8	9	10
	12	13	14	15	16	17
	19	20	21	22	23	24
	26	27	28			

March 2017						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
			1	2	3	4
	5	6	7	8	9	10
	12	13	14	15	16	17
	19	20	21	22	23	24
	26	27	28	29	30	31

Monday, February 27

Wednesday, March 1

12:30pm - 1:30pm Milano

Tuesday, February 28

- 8:30am - 9:30am CCA Homeless Policy Meeting
- 10:30am - 12:00pm Staff Meeting (Admin Offices) - Rena Leddy
- 6:00 pm - 8:00pm BID Consortium Happy Hour in Hollywood

Thursday, March 2

- 11:45am - 12:15pm CCA Executive Committee (FIDM)
- 2:00pm - 3:00pm Miguel Santiago Mtg, (BID Office) - jasmine@fashiondistrict.org

Friday, March 3

1:00pm - 2:00pm Closing

Saturday, March 4

Sunday, March 5

March 6, 2017 - March 12, 2017

March 2017						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	1	2	3	4		
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

April 2017						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	1					
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

Monday, March 6

- 8:00am - 9:00am Reegan Here
- 3:15pm - 3:45pm Call Kathleen

Tuesday, March 7

- 10:30am - 12:00pm Staff Meeting (Admin Offices) - Rena Leddy
- 12:00pm - 1:00pm Operations - Rena Leddy
- 4:00pm - 6:00pm Nate

Wednesday, March 8

- Reegan Here
- 10:00am - 11:00am Jackie Kim, Santiago's Office

Thursday, March 9

- Reagan Here
- 10:00am - 11:30am I&C
- 12:00pm - 1:00pm BID Consortium Meeting (100 S. Flower St. Suite 3-300) - jasmine@fashiondistrict.org
- 2:30pm - 3:30pm Cardiff, UK University Students Visit for Field Study (Conference Room) - jasmine@fashiondistrict.org
- 3:30pm - 4:30pm Nhien

Friday, March 10

- Reegan Here
- 4:00am - 8:00am Nate
- 10:00am - 11:30am Fwd: DTLA 2040 Working Group (CCA) - Marie Rumsey
- 4:00pm - 4:30pm Invitation: Diamond in DTLA: Call @ Fri Mar 10, 2017 4pm - 4:30pm (PST) (Rena Leddy) (Conference Bridge, 1.213.226.1066, Access Code 102-663-509#) - Joe Devon
- 4:35pm - 4:45pm Hair - Cynthia (11630 Ventura Blvd.)

Saturday, March 11

- 8:00am Reegan Here

Sunday, March 12

March 13, 2017 - March 19, 2017

March 2017					April 2017								
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
		1	2	3	4		1		2	3	4	5	6
	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7
	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14
	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21
	26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28
							30						29

Monday, March 13

- 11:00am - 12:00pm Santee Alley
- 2:00pm - 3:15pm Updated Invitation: Hold for Rena @ Mon Mar 13, 2017 2pm - 3:15pm (PDT) (rena@fashiondistrict.org) - rena@fashiondistrict.org
- 5:00pm - 6:00pm Nate

Tuesday, March 14

- 12:00am CDA
- 10:30am - 12:00pm Staff Meeting (Admin Offices) - Rena Leddy
- 6:30pm - 9:30pm DLANC (630 S. Broadway)

Wednesday, March 15

- CDA
- 10:30am - 12:00pm IDA: In-person Board Meeting (228 East Broadway, Downtown Long Beach) - Rebecca Bishophall

Thursday, March 16

- 12:00am CDA

Friday, March 17

- 7:00am - 8:00am Nate
- 12:00pm - 1:00pm Hal Bastian (La Athletic club 7 th lobby)

Saturday, March 18

Sunday, March 19

March 20, 2017 - March 26, 2017

March 2017				
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th
	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9 10 11
12	13	14	15	16 17 18
19	20	21	22	23 24 25
26	27	28	29	30 31

April 2017				
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th
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9	10	11	12	13 14 15
16	17	18	19	20 21 22
23	24	25	26	27 28 29
30				

Monday, March 20

- 7:00am - 8:00am Nata
- 9:00am - 11:15am Updated Invitation: Hold for Rena @ Mon Mar 20, 2017 9am - 11:15am (PDT) (rena@fashiondistrict.org) -
- 11:00am - 12:00pm Skid Row Neighborhood Council update call with Rocky Delgadillo (Conference Call) - Estela Lopez

Tuesday, March 21

- 10:30am - 12:00pm Staff Meeting (Admin Offices) - Rena Leddy
- 11:00am - 11:30am Mark Levy (Cognoscenti)

Wednesday, March 22

- Moving Day
- 7:00am - 8:00am Nata
- 12:00pm - 1:00pm Steve Hirsh, LAPD Newton & Ari and BID (Bendix Front Door) - Rena Leddy
- 3:00pm - 4:00pm Reef with Ava

Thursday, March 23

- Moving Day

Friday, March 24

- 10:00am - 11:30am DTLA 2040 Working Group-Central City East & Fashion District Neighborhoods (CCA) - Marie Rumsey
- 10:00am - 11:30am Updated Invitation: Hold for Rena - Kathleen (Address Staff) @ Fri Mar 24, 2017 10am - 11:30am (PDT) (rena@fashiondistrict.org) - reneelle@downlow.com
- 11:00am - 12:00pm IDA Prof Dev Committee meeting (1-888-875-1833 passcode 54669800) - Carolyn Dellutri

Saturday, March 25

- 8:00am - 3:00pm Furniture Pick up

Sunday, March 26

March 27, 2017 - April 2, 2017

March 2017				
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th
	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9 10 11
12	13	14	15	16 17 18
19	20	21	22	23 24 25
26	27	28	29	30 31

April 2017				
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th
	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9 10 11
12	13	14	15	16 17 18
19	20	21	22	23 24 25
26	27	28	29	30

Monday, March 27

Tuesday, March 28

- 8:00am - Mom & Dad Here
- 9:00am - 10:00am Danielle (1155 Hope Street, 11th & Hope Impressario)
- 10:30am - 12:00pm Staff Meeting (Admin Offices) - Rena Leddy
- 10:30am - 11:30am CCEA

Wednesday, March 29

Thursday, March 30

- 8:00am - Mom & Dad Here
- 10:30am - 11:30am UPC call
- 11:00am - 2:00pm Pop-up Poll
- 11:00am - 11:30am Create Tickets

Friday, March 31

Saturday, April 1

- 8:00am - Mom & Dad Here

- 9:00am - 2:00pm Board Retreat

Sunday, April 2

- 8:00am - Mom & Dad Here

April 3, 2017 - April 9, 2017

April 2017					May 2017								
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
					1		1	2	3	4	5	6	
		2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
		9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	15	16	17	18
		16	17	18	19	20	21	22	21	22	23	24	25
		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	28	29	30	31	
		30											

Monday, April 3

- Mom & Dad Here
- Vacation Day

Tuesday, April 4

- Mom & Dad Here
- 10:30am - 12:00pm Staff Meeting (Admin Offices) - Rena Leddy

Wednesday, April 5

- Mom & Dad Here
- 7:00am - 8:00am Nata

Thursday, April 6

- Mom & Dad Here
- 7:15am - 8:45am Roses and Lemon Awards Breakfast (Millennium Biltmore Hotel, 506 South Grand Ave)
- 12:00pm - 1:30pm CCA Exec (Orthopaedic Hospital)

Friday, April 7

- Mom & Dad Here
- 12:00pm Palm Springs
- Randall Off
- Vacation Day
- 7:00am - 8:00am Nata

9:30am - 10:00am CDA Legislative Committee Monthly Conference Call (Call In - 712-775-7300 Passcode: 928726) - Eric Crane

Saturday, April 8

- Mom & Dad Here
- Vacation Day

Sunday, April 9

- Mom & Dad Here
- 12:00pm Palm Springs

April 10, 2017 - April 16, 2017

April 2017					May 2017								
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
						1	1	2	3	4	5	6	
	2	3	4	5	6	7	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	9	10	11	12	13	14	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
	16	17	18	19	20	21	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
	23	24	25	26	27	28	28	29	29	30	30	31	

Monday, April 10

8:00am - 8:00am Mom & Dad Here
Randall Off
Vacation Day

Tuesday, April 11

8:00am - 8:00am Mom & Dad Here
10:30am - 12:00pm Staff Meeting (Admin Offices) - Rena Leddy
11:30am - 12:30pm Lunch to Talk About What to do Before Ariana Leaves (Turk) - Rena Leddy
2:30pm - 3:30pm Invitation: San Pedro St. Safety Project Briefing @ Tue Apr 11, 2017 2:30pm - 3:30pm (PDT) (rena@fashiondistrict.org) (Downtown Industrial District BID, 725 Crocker St.) - tim.fremaux@lacity.org

Wednesday, April 12

7:00am - 8:00am Nate
12:00pm - 1:30pm Updated Invitation: Fashion District BID meeting @ Wed Apr 12, 2017 12pm - 1:30pm (PDT) (rena@fashiondistrict.org) (New Moon Restaurant, 102 W 9th St, Los Angeles, CA 90015, USA) - kurt.knecht@lacity.org
2:00pm - 3:00pm Ariana, Jasmine, Rena - Rena Leddy
6:30pm - 9:30pm DLANC (630 S. Broadway)

Thursday, April 13

8:30am - 10:00am CCA Transportation
11:45am - 1:00pm Invitation: LA BID Consortium Meeting @ Thu Apr 13, 2017 11:45am - 1pm (PDT) (rena@fashiondistrict.org) (6562 Hollywood Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90028, USA) - labidconsortium@gmail.com

Friday, April 14

7:00am - 8:00am Nate
9:00am - 10:00am Carolina

Saturday, April 15

Sunday, April 16

10:30am - 1:30pm Easter Brunch - Tony P's Dockside Grill (4449 Admiralty Way, Marina Del Rey, CA 90292) - Rena Leddy
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April 17, 2017 - April 23, 2017

April 2017					May 2017								
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
						1		1	2	3	4	5	6
		2	3	4	5	6	7	7	8	9	10	11	12
		9	10	11	12	13	14	14	15	16	17	18	19
		15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	28	29	30	31	
		30											

Monday, April 17

7:00am - 8:00am Nata

Wednesday, April 19

9:00am - 10:00am Milano

5:00pm - 6:00pm Nata

Friday, April 21

Send Adrian Next Batch

1:30pm - 2:30pm Fashion District Renewal Call (Phone Call) - Rena Leddy

4:30pm - 6:00pm Cynthia

Tuesday, April 18

- 10:30am - 12:00pm Staff Meeting (Admin Offices) - Rena Leddy
- 12:00pm - 1:30pm Idea Session with BIDs (CCA - 626 Wilshire Boulevard) - Jessica Lall
- 12:00pm - 1:30pm Idea Session with BIDs (CCA - 626 Wilshire Boulevard) - Jessica Lall

Thursday, April 20

- 10:00am - 11:30am Finance
- 11:45am - 2:15pm Board Meeting
- 3:30pm - 4:30pm Updated Invitation: Shayla and Rena Meeting @ Thu Apr 20, 2017 3:30pm - 4:30pm (PDT)
(rena@fashiondistrict.org) (Verve Coffee - DTLA, 833 S Spring St, Los Angeles, CA 90014, USA) - shayla@startupdtla.com

Saturday, April 22

Sunday, April 23

April 24, 2017 - April 30, 2017

April 2017					May 2017								
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
						1	1	2	3	4	5	6	
	2	3	4	5	6	7	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	9	10	11	12	13	14	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
	16	17	18	19	20	21	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
	23	24	25	26	27	28	28	29	29	30	30	31	
	30												

Monday, April 24

Wednesday, April 26

- Start 3 day
- 8:30am - 10:00am CCA Homeless Policy Co (626 Wilshire)
- 12:00pm - 1:30pm Lunch w/ Rena Leddy & Carol Schatz (Terroni - 802 S. Spring Street) - Carol Schatz
- 5:00pm - 6:00pm Nat

Friday, April 28

- 10:00am - 11:30am DTLA 2040 Working Group (CCA, 626 Wilshire Blvd., #200) - Marie Rumsey

Tuesday, April 25

- 10:30am - 12:00pm Staff Meeting (Admin Offices) - Rena Leddy
- 11:30am - 1:30pm Psomas - Community Plan (555 S. Flower Street, 43rd floor)
- 2:00pm - 4:00pm GoToWebinar - Community Web Meeting - Measure H Funding Requests (GoToWebinar - See conference call information below) - webmeeting@ceo.lacounty.gov

Thursday, April 27

- 10:00am - 11:30am Fashion District Renewal Committee (110 E. 9th Street, A1175) - Rena Leddy
- 1:00pm - 1:30pm I&C

Sunday, April 30

May 1, 2017 - May 7, 2017

May 2017					June 2017								
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6		1	2	3			
	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	4	5	6	7	8	9
	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	11	12	13	14	15	16
	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	18	19	20	21	22	23
	28	29	30	31				25	26	27	28	29	30

Monday, May 1

Respond to Adrian

Tuesday, May 2

12:00am Ariana Off →
June 4 Friday

- 10:30am - 12:00pm Staff Meeting (Admin Offices) - Rena Leddy
- 11:00am - 11:30am CUP Hearing - Event Company at City Market South (200 North Spring Street, Los Angeles, Room 1070) - Mark Levy
- 12:00pm - 1:00pm Tribune & Rena Lunch in Fashion Dist (The Tuck Hotel address 820 S. Spring Street) - Cade, Carl

Wednesday, May 3

Ariana Off →
Mary Ann's Bday
7:00am - 8:00am Nate
11:00am - 1:00pm Santee Alley
5:00pm - 6:00pm Jessica & Rena (626 Wilshire) - Rena Leddy

Thursday, May 4

Ariana Off →
8:00am - 10:00am Coffee with a Cop (Starbucks, 300 E. 9th Street)
10:30am - 11:30am FW: Professional Development Committee (1-888-875-1833 passcode 64669809) - Kate Borders
5:30pm - 10:00pm Coro Crystal Eagle Awards (Taglyan Cultural Complex, 1201 Vine Street, Los Angeles, Ca 90038)

Friday, May 5

Ariana Off →
Respond to Adrian re: 4/26
7:00am - 8:00am Nate
11:00am - 12:00pm Ashley & Rena to go over Board Stuff (Tuck) - Rena Leddy

Saturday, May 6

Ariana Off →
June 5 Saturday

Sunday, May 7

Ariana Off →
11:30am - 12:00pm Meet Brooke (Little Dem's)

May 8, 2017 - May 14, 2017

May 2017					June 2017								
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6		1	2	3			
	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	4	5	6	7	8	9
	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	11	12	13	14	15	16
	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	18	19	20	21	22	23
	28	29	30	31				25	26	27	28	29	30

Monday, May 8

- Ariana Off
- 8:00am - 8:30am Nate
- 9:00am - 9:30am Milana

Tuesday, May 9

- Ariana Off
- Ariana's Bday
- 10:00am - 11:00am Exec. Committee - Rena Leddy 
- 10:30am - 12:00pm Staff Meeting (Admin Offices) - Rena Leddy 
- 12:00pm - 1:00pm Operations - Rena Leddy 
- 6:30pm - 9:30pm DLANC (630 S. Broadway) 

Wednesday, May 10

- Ariana Off
- Courtney's Bday
- Respond to Adrian

Thursday, May 11

- Ariana Off
- 11:30am - 2:00pm Treasurer's Luncheon

Friday, May 12

- Ariana Off
- 12:30pm - 1:30pm Bids (Petit Paris)

Saturday, May 13

- Ariana Off
- 11:00am - 12:00pm Nate (12518 Riverside Dr, Los Angeles, CA 91607, United States)

Sunday, May 14

- Ariana Off
- 8:30am - 9:30am Yoga

May 15, 2017 -

May 21, 2017

May 2017						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	7	8	9	10	11	12
	13	14	15	16	17	18
	19	20	21	22	23	24
	25	26	27	28	29	30

June 2017						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	7	8	9	10	11	12
	13	14	15	16	17	18
	19	20	21	22	23	24
	25	26	27	28	29	30

Monday, May 15

<input type="checkbox"/> Ariana Off	→
<input type="checkbox"/> 7:00am Randall Off	→
10:00am - 11:00am Nicole A Bennett	
3:30pm - 4:30pm Invitation: Fashion District - Inflatables x NOW Art @ Mon May 15, 2017 4pm - 5pm (PDT) (rena@fashiondistrict.org) (424 E. 15th Street (15th and Maple).) - NOW Art LA	

Tuesday, May 16

<input type="checkbox"/> Ariana Off	→
<input type="checkbox"/> Randall Off	→
7:00am - 8:00am Nate	
10:30am - 12:00pm Staff Meeting (Admin Offices) - Rena Leddy	
10:30am - 11:00am Dr O had	

Wednesday, May 17

<input type="checkbox"/> Ariana Off	→
<input type="checkbox"/> Randall Off	→
10:30am - 11:30am City Market Public Hearing (City Hall, room 1020)	
12:00pm - 12:30pm Vanessa re: City Market	
2:30pm - 3:30pm Deborah - Apparel News	
4:00pm - 5:00pm CCA-Kevin de Leon Reception (Los Angeles State Historic Park, 1245 N. Spring St)	

Thursday, May 18

<input type="checkbox"/> Ariana Off	→
<input type="checkbox"/> Randall Off	→
11:45am - 2:15pm Board Meeting	
3:00pm - 4:00pm Angela Babcock & Anthony Bergin (Lumber Union)	

Friday, May 19

<input type="checkbox"/> Ariana Off	→
<input type="checkbox"/> Randall Off	→
<input type="checkbox"/> 12:00am Kris here!	→
<input type="checkbox"/> 1:00pm Blanchard's Eday	→
7:00am - 8:00am Nate	
10:00am - 11:30am DTLA 2040 Working Group (CCA- 626 Wilshire Blvd.. Ste. 200) - Marie Rumsey	
1:40pm - 2:10pm Kris gets in	

Saturday, May 20

<input type="checkbox"/> Ariana Off	→
<input type="checkbox"/> Randall Off	→
<input type="checkbox"/> 12:00pm Kris here!	→
6:30pm - 9:30pm U2 At Rose Bowl	

Sunday, May 21

<input type="checkbox"/> Ariana Off	→
<input type="checkbox"/> Randall Off	→
<input type="checkbox"/> 12:00pm Kris here!	→

May 22, 2017 - May 28, 2017

May 2017				
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th
	1	2	3	4
	5	6	7	8
	9	10	11	12
	13	14	15	16
	17	18	19	20
	21	22	23	24
	25	26	27	28
	29	30	31	

June 2017				
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th
	1	2	3	
	4	5	6	7
	8	9	10	
	11	12	13	14
	15	16	17	18
	19	20	21	22
	23	24	25	26
	27	28	29	30

Monday, May 22

1 Ariana Off	→
2 Randall Off	→
3 12:00pm Ariana Off	

12:00pm - 1:00pm Invitation: Natalie/Rena lunch @ Mon May 22, 2017 12pm - 1pm (PDT) (rena@fashiondistrict.org) (Cafe Gratitude, 300 S Santa Fe Ave, Los Angeles, CA 90013, USA) - natalie@corola.org
6:30pm - 8:30pm DJ Jaffa with Kerry Morrison (Loew's Hollywood Hotel)

Tuesday, May 23

1 Ariana Off	→
2 Randall Off	→
3 Mail Delivery Starts	

7:00am - 8:00am Nate
10:00am - 11:00am Kayhan
2:00pm - 2:30pm City Market South | LA Times Article Prep (Conf Call 323-417-1450 Room 1016 Pin 1453) - Vanessa Kanegai
2:30pm - 3:50pm Dr. Richlin

Wednesday, May 24

1 Randall Off	→
2 9:00am - 10:00am Milano	
3 11:30am - 12:00pm Invitation: USC call: Decriminalization of street vending @ Wed May 24, 2017 11:30am - 12pm (PDT) (rena@fashiondistrict.org) (phone) - encypdh@usc.edu	
4 5:00pm - 6:00pm Massage	

Thursday, May 25

1 Randall Off	→
2 10:00am - 11:30am Fashion District Renewal Committee (110 E. 9th Street, A1175) - Rena Leddy	○

Friday, May 26

1 Randall Off	→
2 1:00am - 8:00am Nate	
3 11:00am - 12:00pm IDA Prof Dev Committee meeting (1-888-875-1833 passcode 5466980) - Carolyn Dellutri	○
4 3:00pm - 3:30pm LA Times City Market South Interview (Roger Vincent to call Rena 810-600-3241) - Vanessa Kanegai	

Saturday, May 27

1 Randall Off	→
2 10:00am - 11:00am Massage	

Sunday, May 28

1 Randall Off	→
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May 29, 2017 - June 4, 2017

May 2017						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	7	8	9	10	11	12
	13	14	15	16	17	18
	19	20	21	22	23	24
	25	26	27	28	29	30
	31					

June 2017						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	7	8	9	10	11	12
	13	14	15	16	17	18
	19	20	21	22	23	24
	25	26	27	28	29	30

Monday, May 29

<input type="checkbox"/> Randall Off	→
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MEMORIAL DAY	

Tuesday, May 30

<input type="checkbox"/> Randall Off	→
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 10:00am - 8:00am Nate	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 10:30am - 12:00pm Staff Meeting (Admin Offices) - Rena Leddy	○
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 11:45am - 1:15pm Laurie R	

Wednesday, May 31

<input type="checkbox"/> Randall Off	→
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 12:00pm S	→
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 8:30am - 10:00am CCA - DTLA 2030 (626 Wilshire)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 12:00pm - 1:00pm John Remeny (New Moon)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 4:15pm - 4:45pm Milene (public art) phone call	

Thursday, June 1

<input type="checkbox"/> Randall Off	→
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 12:00pm S	→
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 7:00am - 8:00am Nate	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 11:45am - 1:15pm CCA - Exec. (Hotel Indigo, 899 Francisco Street)	○

Friday, June 2

<input type="checkbox"/> Randall Off	→
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 9:00am - 10:00am Updated Invitation: Rena / Ari & CD14 @ Fri Jun 2, 2017 9am - 10am (PDT) (rena@fashiondistrict.org) (Poppy) (765 1st St, Los Angeles, CA 90014 USA) - ari.simon@lacity.org	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 11:00am - 12:00pm Invitation: Fashion District BID x NOW Art @ Fri Jun 2, 2017 11am - 12pm (PDT) (rena@fashiondistrict.org) - NOW Art LA	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1:00pm - 2:30pm Rena & Andrew (City Tavern, 9739 Culver) - Rena Leddy	

Saturday, June 3

<input type="checkbox"/> Randall Off	→
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 9:00am - 10:00am Brandy	

Sunday, June 4

<input type="checkbox"/> Randall Off	→
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**7.3 Exhibit 3 – March 20, 2017 Rena Leddy to Scott Yamabe
email**

From: [Rena Leddy](#)
To: [Scott Yamabe](#)
Subject: Skid Row Neighborhood Council
Date: Monday, March 20, 2017 11:44:00 AM
Attachments: [FINAL DRAFT- SRNC-Bylaws-2016-3C.pdf](#)
[Skid Row NC Application.pdf](#)
[Skid Row Petition Ltr Final 1-11-2017.pdf](#)
[Skid_Row_NC_Boundaries with Business Info.pdf](#)
[SRNC-Resident Board Seats-1A.pdf](#)
[Skid Row Neighborhood Council Community Meeting Agenda - February 15.pdf](#)
[Skid Row Neighborhood Council Community Meeting Agenda - March 9.pdf](#)
Importance: High

Give me a call when you get a minute!

While the homeless issues are vital to the economy of DTLA and the entire City of Los Angeles, the pending proposal to divide Downtown Los Angeles into separate districts will have significant fiscal and economic impacts. Common sense implies that dividing DTLA into sub-neighborhoods as proposed by the Skid Row Neighborhood Council (SRNC) Formation Committee, with the pending vote on April 6th, will have serious financial impacts to the City because of potential impacts to property values. Ignoring the economic, social and political ramifications, the creation of SRNC as a separate geographic district would be short sighted.

Resolving the residential, health and welfare issue of the homeless throughout Los Angeles cannot be taken lightly. The voice of the homeless should never be ignored. With all of the bond revenue being generated to create new housing opportunities in the pipeline, community input is a vital part of the development process.

Dividing DTLA into separate neighborhoods would undo all of the progress made over the past decade. The implications may not sound politically correct; however, the economic realities are obvious.

Please **oppose** the formation of the SRNC on April 6th

James Wood Community Center
400 East 5th Street
April 6, 2017
3pm to 7pm

There is no other polling place and there are no absentee ballots. If each individual doesn't actually take time to vote, then they will actually have no say in whether or not DTLA will be divided into two separate geographic districts. If approved, people will live and work in either DTLA or Skid Row.

Schedule your calendar now. Please share with your residents and tenants.

7.4 Exhibit 4 – March 20, 2017 Rena Leddy to FDBID stakeholders email

From: [Rena Leddy](#)
To: [Ronny Bensimon](#); [Bradley A. Luster](#); [Jim Mellano](#); [Mark Chatoff \(mark@californiaflowermall.com\)](#); [John Van Den Akker](#); [Scott Yamabe](#); ["Darrin Olson"](#); ["Dean Nucich"](#); [Adrian Szabo](#); [Joshua Foley \(JFoley@essex.com\)](#)
Subject: Your property & Skid Row Neighborhood Council
Date: Monday, March 20, 2017 12:24:00 PM
Attachments: [Letter to DONE31717.pdf](#)

Dear Fashion District Stakeholder,

A group of stakeholders in Skid Row is trying to create a Neighborhood Council which would splinter from the Downtown Neighborhood Council (DLANC). There will be an election April 6th. The boundaries are 3rd to 7th and Main to Alameda. (It is unclear if it is both sides of Main and 7th.)

Attached is a letter sent by attorney Rocky Delgadillo on behalf of property owners in the proposed new neighborhood council who are petitioning that the City postpone the election, now scheduled for April 6. These owners have formed an entity that engaged Rocky for this effort. The group is called United Downtown LA LLC. This proposal to create a new, separate neighborhood council between Main/Alameda/3rd/7th was approved by the City and will have an election on April 6 unless the group is successful in obtaining a postponement. Rocky has documented the many deficiencies in the application. There was absolutely no outreach to the businesses and property owners who would be affected.

The Department of Neighborhood Empowerment is the City department that oversees neighborhood councils. **Rocky will attend a meeting today at 1 p.m. and will testify.** I will be there also.

Additionally, there will be another meeting on Wednesday that I will forward you that information. I encourage you to call Councilmember Huizar.

Please call me if you need additional information. I can be reached on my cell phone if I'm not in the office.

Rena Masten Leddy, Executive Director
LA Fashion District
110 E 9th Street Suite A 1175
Los Angeles, CA 90079

tel: 213-488-1153 x 712
fax: 213-488-5159
cell: 310-600-3247
[www.fashiondistrict.org](#)

7.5 Exhibit 5 – March 20, 2017 Minutes of BONC meeting

CITY OF LOS ANGELES
CALIFORNIA

BOARD OF NEIGHBORHOOD
COMMISSIONERS

LEONARD SHAFFER
President

JOY ATKINSON
vice President

MAGGIE DARETT-QUIROZ
JOSH LAFARGA
DEBBIE WEHBE
EVE SINCLAIR
ELI LIPMEN



ERIC GARCETTI
MAYOR

TELEPHONE: (213) 978-1551

NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCILS
EMPOWER LA
Department of
NEIGHBORHOOD EMPOWERMENT

20TH FLOOR, CITY HALL
200 NORTH SPRING STREET
LOS ANGELES, CA 90012

TELEPHONE: (213) 978-1551
TOLL-FREE: 3-1-1
FAX: (213) 978-1751
E-MAIL: EmpowerLA@acity.org

GRAYCE LIU
GENERAL MANAGER

www.EmpowerLA.org

BOARD OF NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSIONERS

REGULAR MEETNG MINUTES - APPROVED

Monday, March 20, 2017 1:00 PM

LOCATION: CITY HALL, 10th FI Conference Room

200 N Spring St. Los Angeles, CA 90012

The public is requested to fill out a "Speaker Card" to address the Board on any agenda item before the Board takes an action on an item. The amount of time for each agenda item is to be determined by the Chair at each meeting. Speakers shall limit their comments to matters relevant to the item on the agenda. The Chair may rule that the speaker is out of order if the comments are not germane to the item under consideration. If multiple speaker cards are submitted on one agenda item, preference will be granted to members of the public who have not spoken previously during the meeting, either during general public comment or on another agenda item.

A member of the public wishing to speak on more than one agenda item at a single meeting shall limit his or her remarks to a total of five (5) minutes per meeting. Comments by members of the public who have submitted multiple speaker cards and want to speak on all items for up to five minutes at one time can choose to speak during the Multiple Agenda Items Comment period. Members of the public who choose to speak during the Multiple Agenda Items period will be given the opportunity to also speak during General Public Comments.

Comments from the public on other matters not appearing on the agenda that are within the Board's jurisdiction will be heard during the Public Forum period. Public comment is limited to 15 minutes maximum. No individual speaker will be allowed more than 3 minutes, unless presiding officer of the Board decides differently.

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The agenda is posted for public review in Main Street Lobby of City Hall East at 200 North Main Street and at 20th Floor, City Hall, 200 North Spring Street, Los Angeles. As a covered entity under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Los Angeles does not discriminate on the basis of disability and upon request will provide reasonable accommodation to ensure equal access to its programs, services, and activities. The Agenda and Report(s) related to an agenda item will be available for review at www.Empowerla.org. Sign language interpreters, assisted listening devices, or other auxiliary aids and/or services may be provided upon request. To ensure availability of services, please make your request at least 3 business days (72 hours) prior to the meeting by contacting the Department at (213) 978-1551.

SI REQUIERE SERVICIOS DE TRADUCCION, FAVOR DE NOTIFICAR A LA OFICINA 3 días de trabajo (72 horas) ANTES DEL EVENTO. SI NECESITA ASISTENCIA CON ESTA NOTIFICACION, POR FAVOR LLAME A NUESTRA OFICINA AL (213) 978-1551.

1. [1:20]Introduction (5 minutes)
2. [1:24]Call to Order and Commission roll call (1 minute)

Commissioner	Present	Absent
Shaffer	X	
Atkinson	X	
Darett-Quiroz	X	
Lafarga	X	
Lipmen	X	
Sinclair		X
Wehbe	X	

Note: Commissioner Lipmen arrived at 1:49 pm.

3. [1:26]Discussion with Neighborhood Council representatives on any Neighborhood Council Resolution or Community Impact Statement filed with the City Clerk which relates to any agenda item listed or being considered on this agenda for the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners.

Public Comment: None

4. [1:27]Multiple Agenda Items Comment – Comments by members of the public who have submitted multiple speaker cards and want to speak on all items for up to five minutes at one time can choose to speak during the Multiple Agenda Items Comment period. Members of the public who choose to speak during the Multiple Agenda Items period will be given the opportunity to also speak during General Public Comments.

Public Comment: None

5. [1:27]Approval of the Minutes ⁴⁷ of the Meeting of 03/16/17.

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http://empowerla.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/03/Board-of-Neighborhood-Commissioners-Special-Meeting-Minutes-03.16.17.DRAFT_.pdf (3 minutes)

Public Comment: None

Action: Motion to approve Minutes of the Meeting of 03/16/17.

VOTE	Mover	Atkinson	Second	Lafarga
Commissioner	Ayes	Nays	Abstention	Absent
Shaffer	X			
Atkinson	X			
Lafarga	X			
Wehbe	x			
Darett-Quiroz				
Total	4			
Motion	Carries	X	Fails	

6. [1:28]Verbal updates from representatives of the Mayor, Los Angeles City Council, and other City representatives. (10 minutes).

Public Comment: Wayne provided commentary.

7. [1:30]Verbal updates from representatives of the Los Angeles Neighborhood Council Budget Advocates. Neighborhood Council Budget Advocates provide input to the City on the City's Budget. Additional information regarding the Budget Advocates is available at <http://ncbala.com/>. (10 minutes).

Public Comment: Wayne provided commentary

8. [1:31]General Public Comments - Comments from the public on non-agenda items within the Board's subject matter jurisdiction. This agenda item will last a total of 15 minutes and no individual speaker will be allowed more than three minutes. (15 minutes)

Public Comment: Wayne provided commentary.

9. [1:34]General Manager's Report. (10 minutes)

- Briefing on Departmental activities.
- Staffing, budget, elections and other operational matters.
- Subdivision policy.
- EmpowerLA Awards update
- Enforcement of Minutes Posting Policy Requirement

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Public Comment: Update provided by Grayce Liu. Mike Fong provided update on Subdivision process and Homelessness Civic U. Judy Price no comment. Wayne provided commentary. Lisa Sarkin, no comment. Joe Riser provided commentary. Commissioner Atkinson inquired on “quiet time” as discussed by Joe Riser. Grayce Liu provided clarification.

10. [1:48]Discussion and possible action to draft a Letter of Recommendation on behalf of Downtown Los Angeles Neighborhood Council related to their Vision Plan award nomination. (10 minutes)

Public Comment: Presentation by DLANC President, Patti Berman. Commissioner Shaffer asked for clarification of request.

Action: Motion to approve letter draft provided by DLANC Commission.

VOTE	Mover	Darett-Quiroz	Second	Lafarga
Commissioner	Ayes	Nays	Abstention	Absent
Shaffer	X			
Atkinson	X			
Darett-Quiroz	X			
Lafarga	X			
Wehbe	X			
Total	5			
Motion	Carries	X	Fails	

11. [1:55]Discussion and update on Neighborhood Council Subdivision elections. (10 minutes)

Public Comment: Wayne not present, no comment. Paola Flores provide commentary. Scott Gray provided commentary. John H provided commentary. Debbi Welsh provided commentary. Rocky Delgadillo provided commentary. Robert Newman provided commentary. Commissioner Atkinson asked for location of polling place. Grayce Liu and Mike Fong provided clarification. Michael Maier provided commentary. Joseph Riser provided commentary. Kathleen Damani provided commentary. Rena Leddy provided commentary. Alan Kumamoto provided commentary. Karen Christopherson provided commentary. Miguel Nelson provided commentary. General Jeff provided commentary. Elizabeth Peter Gowen provided commentary. Commissioner LaFarga asked for clarification of timing. Grayce Liu provided clarification. Commissioner Darett-Quiroz asked for clarification on polling place. Deputy CA Elise Rudin provided update. Commission Wehbe provided commentary. CA Elise Rudin provided advice to Commissioner

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Wehbe's commentary. Grayce Liu & Mike Fong provided update on next SRNC townhall meeting. Commissioner Darett-Quiroz asked for viewing of letter submitted by Rocky Delgadillo.

12. [2:41]Discussion and possible action to create Ad Hoc Committee to review Council File 15-1022-S2 including General Manager's report on elections and provide recommendations.

Public Comment: Lisa Sarkin provided commentary. Judy Price provided commentary.

Commissioner Shaffer appointed Commissioner Lipmen as Ad Hoc chair and Commissioners Wehbe and Darett-Quiroz appointed as members. Ad Hoc term date is 6 months from today which is 09/19/17.

Action: None. Creation of Ad Hoc by appointment of Commissioner Shaffer.

13. [2:49]Discussion and possible action to approve Silverlake Neighborhood Council Bylaw amendment to modify Youth Board eligibility age from 14 years of age to 18 years of age and minimum voting age. <https://empowerla.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/03/SLNC-Bylaw-Amendment-Request-Documents.pdf>

Public Comment: Update provided by Department staff, Lorenzo Briseno. Commissioner LaFarga asked for clarification as of Department's recommendation. Grayce Liu provided further clarification of Department's recommendation. Commissioner Atkinson provided commentary. Anne Marie Johnson provided commentary. Betsy Israelite provided commentary. Jerome Courshon provided commentary. Commissioner Darett-Quiroz provided commentary. Commissioner Wehbe provided commentary. Commissioner Lipmen provided commentary. Commission Lafarga provided commentary and requested clarification of Youth participation. Anne Marie Johnson provided clarification of 14 year old participation in 2016 election. Commissioner Lipmen provided rebuttal to Ms Johnson's clarification. Commissioner Atkinson provided commentary. Commissioner Shaffer provided commentary and rebuttal to Commissioner Lipmen's commentary. Commissioner Lafarga inquired on accuracy of SLNC's bylaws amendment request. Grayce Liu provided response. Commissioner Darett-Quiroz provided commentary.

Action: Motion to approve Silverlake Neighborhood Council Bylaw amendment to modify Youth Board eligibility age from 14 years of age to 18 years of age.

VOTE	Mover	Darett-Quiroz	Second	Wehbe
Commissioner	Ayes	50 Nays	Abstention	Absent
Shaffer	X			

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Atkinson	X			
Lafarga	X			
Lipmen		X		
Wehbe	X			
Darett-Quiroz		X		
Total	4	2		
Motion	Carries	X	Fails	

14. [3:36] Discussion and possible action regarding the creation of an Ad Hoc Committee for the Empower LA Awards.

Public Comment: None. Commissioner explained requirements.

Commissioner Darett-Quiroz appointed chair. Commissioners Wehbe and Lafarga appointed members.

Action: None. Creation of Ad Hoc made by Commission Chair appointment.

15. [3:40] Discussion and possible action regarding Board of Neighborhood Commissioner's Newsletter. (10 minutes)

Public Comment: Update and commentary provided by Commissioner Lipmen.

16. [3:40] Commission Business - Comment from Commissioners on subject matters within the Board's jurisdiction. (15 minutes)

1. Comment on Commissioners' own activities/brief announcements.
2. Brief response to statements made or questions posed by persons exercising their general public comment rights/ask staff questions for clarification.
3. Introduce new issues for consideration by the Commission at its next meeting and direct staff to place on the agenda.
4. Ask staff to research issues and report back to the Commission at a future time.

Commissioner Lipmen provided commentary. Commissioner Shaffer provided update on Emer committee.

17. [3:40] Adjourn

VOTE	Mover	Darett-Quiroz	Second	Lafarga
Commissioner	Ayes	Nays	Abstention	Absent
Shaffer	X			
Atkinson	X			
Darett-Quiroz	X	51		
Lafarga	X			

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Lipmen	X			
Wehbe	X			
Total	6			
Motion	Carries		Fails	

Future Board of Neighborhood Commissioners Meetings (INFORMATION ONLY)

(Please note: The items listed below are tentative and may be subject to change. You are encouraged to visit the City's website at www.lacity.org to view Commission agendas and subscribe through the City's Early Notification System Subscription page to receive the Commission's agendas via email.)

- Regular Meeting on April 4, 2017 at 6:00pm – Location TBD: West Area
- Regular Meeting on April 17, 2017 at 1:00pm., at City Hall, 10th Floor Conference Center, Room 1050, 200 North Spring Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012
- Regular Meeting on May 2, 2017 at 6:00pm – Location TBD: South Valley
- Regular Meeting on May 15, 2017 at 1:00pm., at City Hall, 10th Floor Conference Center, Room 1050, 200 North Spring Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012

FINALIZATION OF BOARD ACTION:

Per City Charter Section 245, the Board's determination shall become final at the expiration of the next five meeting days of the Council during which the City Council has convened in regular session, unless the City Council acts within that timeframe by a two-thirds vote to bring the action before them or to waive review of the action.

EXHAUSTION OF ADMINISTRATIVE REMEDIES:

If you challenge these agenda items in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing or in written correspondence on these matters delivered to this agency at or prior to the public hearing. California Code of Civil Procedure Section 1094.6 governs the time in which a party may seek judicial review of this determination. Under that provision, a petitioner may seek judicial review of any decision of the City pursuant to California Code of Civil Procedure Section 1094.5 only if the petition for Writ of Mandate pursuant to that section is filed no later than the 90th day following the date on which the City's decision became final.

RECONSIDERATION:

The Commission may make a MOTION TO RECONSIDER and alter its action taken on any item listed on this agenda at any time during this meeting, or make a MOTION TO RECONSIDER at its next regular meeting as indicated below:

BOARD OF NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSIONERS
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MARCH 20, 2017
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If the Commission moves and approves a Motion for Reconsideration at the *initial* meeting wherein an action was taken, then the underlying item may be reconsidered at that time.

If the Commission moves and approves a Motion for Reconsideration at *the next regular meeting* then consideration of the item may *only* occur at this regularly scheduled meeting if the item for consideration has been placed on that meeting's agenda. If the underlying item for reconsideration has not been placed on the agenda for that next regular meeting, then it shall be considered at a subsequent meeting pursuant to the Ralph M. Brown Act.

PUBLIC ACCESS OF RECORDS:

"In compliance with Government Code Section 54957.5, non-exempt writings that are distributed to a majority or all of the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners in advance of their meetings, may be viewed at the office of the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment, located at City Hall, 20TH Floor, 200 North Spring Street, Los Angeles, California 90012, by clicking on the Department's Web site at <http://www.EmpowerLA.org> or at the Commission meeting. In addition, if you would like a copy of any record related to an item on the agenda, contact the Department at (213) 978-1551 or via e-mail: Commission@EmpowerLA.org.

**7.6 Exhibit 6 – March 20, 2017 Rena Leddy to Debbie Welsch
email**

From: [Rena Leddy](#)
To: ["Debbie Welsch"](#)
Subject: RE: Disqualify the Apr 6th SRNC Vote
Date: Monday, March 20, 2017 4:41:00 PM

Thanks! I will include it in my update to owners that I contacted and I'll cc you.

From: Debbie Welsch [mailto:debbie@capitalforesight.com]
Sent: Monday, March 20, 2017 4:41 PM
To: Rena Leddy <rena@fashiondistrict.org>
Subject: FW: Disqualify the Apr 6th SRNC Vote

From: Scott Gray [mailto:scott@capitalforesight.com]
Sent: Monday, March 20, 2017 4:33 PM
To: Debbie Welsch; blindborg@borgdevelopment.com; isidraclark@cannonmanagement.com; Rachel Guyson; hernandez@cannonmanagement.com; Jason Mathe; aj@capitalforesight.com
Subject: FW: Disqualify the Apr 6th SRNC Vote

Below is a sample email that each of you should send to Councilman Huizar and Councilman Wesson, and as many others as you can. If possible, add someone from each of their staffs.

A bulk email with all our names is less effective than individual emails.

Scott W Gray
Director of Operations
Capital Foresight
O: 310-234-9598
C: 909-586-0000

From: Scott Gray [mailto:scott@capitalforesight.com]
Sent: Monday, March 20, 2017 4:30 PM
To: councilmember.huizar@lacity.org
Cc: Naty (naty@capitalforesight.com); rdelgadillo@linerlaw.com
Subject: Disqualify the Apr 6th SRNC Vote

Dear Councilman Huizar,

At this time I call upon you to immediately take action at City Council to disqualify the vote scheduled for April 6, 2017 for the proposed formation of a separate and new Skid Row Neighborhood Council.

It is imperative that this action to disqualify and stop the vote take place immediately.

In the attached summary of issues prepared by Mr. Delgadillo, it is very clear that the "DONE" application was both incomplete and improperly noticed. Here are the key issues of greatest

concern justify the cancellation of this vote:

- 1) The subdivision petition did not properly specify the proposed boundaries.
- 2) The Subdivision Petition did not comply with the minimum population standards required to form a neighborhood council.
- 3) The proposed formation confuses all downtown stakeholders because it improperly applies overlapping areas in order to boost the population count.
- 4) The subdivision petition did not contain a valid set of bylaws.
- 5) “DONE” improperly deemed the application complete, when in fact it was deficient.

Councilman Huizar, Capital Foresight holds multiple properties in multiple Business Improvement Districts ranging from Little Tokyo, to the Arts District, to the Historic Core, to the Fashion District and in the Warehouse/Industrial District. Further, our representatives are Executive Members of the CCA and hold Board positions on other BID Boards. Up until a couple of weeks ago, we had absolutely no knowledge of the proposed formation of SRNC or the approved application. The improper notification process kept us in virtual darkness in what can only be describe as a scheme to minimize awareness of the application and upcoming vote. We have not been given any notices and, therefore, had no reason to seek out information from the Formation Committee.

Please disqualify the “DONE” approval and STOP THE VOTE.

Thank you,

Scott W Gray
Director of Operations
Capital Foresight
O: 310-234-9598
C: 909-586-0000

7.7 Exhibit 7 – March 29, 2017 Rena Leddy setting meeting with Tim Fremaux

Rena Leddy

From: Rena Leddy
Sent: Monday, April 03, 2017 1:51 PM
To: Tim Fremaux
Cc: Estela Lopez; Nate Hayward
Subject: Re: Bike Lanes on San Pedro

I can only make it on 4/11 at 2:30.

Rena Masten Leddy
Executive Director
LA Fashion District
(213) 488-1153

On Apr 3, 2017, at 11:20 AM, Tim Fremaux <tim.fremaux@lacity.org> wrote:

4/10 at 4 PM works for me. Or 4/11 at 2:15 PM is actually ideal (I will be at LAPD Central Traffic from 1-2 so I'll be in the area).

On Mon, Apr 3, 2017 at 10:00 AM, Estela Lopez <ELopez@centralcityeast.org> wrote:

I can do 4/10 at 9:30am or 4pm; 4/11 anytime after lunch. I will be out the rest of the week.

Cordially,

Estela Lopez

Downtown Industrial District BID

725 Crocker St.

Los Angeles, CA 90021

[213-228-8484](tel:213-228-8484)

From: Tim Fremaux [mailto:tim.fremaux@lacity.org]
Sent: Monday, April 03, 2017 8:30 AM
To: Rena Leddy
Cc: Estela Lopez; Nate Hayward
Subject: Re: Bike Lanes on San Pedro

Hi there!

After the 6th would be fine. I'm on vacation starting the 14th. Can we meet sometime in between? 4/10 - 4/13?

Tim

On Wed, Mar 29, 2017 at 9:55 PM, Rena Leddy <rena@fashiondistrict.org> wrote:

Yes. Just let me know what dates might work and I'll try to make my schedule work also.

Rena Masten Leddy

Executive Director

LA Fashion District

[\(213\) 488-1153](tel:(213)488-1153)

On Mar 29, 2017, at 8:21 PM, Estela Lopez <ELopez@centralcityeast.org> wrote:

You bet! Hi Tim. Nice to e-meet you. After the 6th would be best for me but if there's an urgency to do it sooner I will make it work.

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 29, 2017, at 6:19 PM, Nate Hayward <nate.hayward@lacity.org> wrote:

Hi Rena & Estela!

I wanted to introduce you to Tim Fremaux of DOT who does the bike lanes in the city. DOT has been working on a plan for bike lanes on San Pedro Street and he wanted to connect with you all and get your feedback. Would you all be able to meet with him?

Thanks!

--

Nate Hayward

7.8 Exhibit 8 – March 29, 2017 Urbanize LA Article about SRNC quoting Rena Leddy

Voting Begins for Skid Row Neighborhood Council Petition

Vote marks the first test of a new city rule permitting the subdivision of neighborhood councils.

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by [CHRIS LOOS](#) on March 29, 2017, 10:48PM

The first test of Los Angeles's new Neighborhood Council subdivision provision kicked off yesterday, when online voting opened for the Skid Row Neighborhood Council (SRNC).

If passed, SRNC would cover 49 blocks spanning the area between Main and Alameda Streets and Third and Seventh Streets, and would share or overlap boundaries with the Arts District, Little Tokyo and the Fashion District. SRNC would become Downtown L.A.'s third Neighborhood Council after the Downtown Los Angeles Neighborhood Council (DLANC) and the Historic Cultural Neighborhood Council (HCNC). DLANC would cede 45 blocks to SRNC, while HCNC would cede 4 blocks.

SRNC would also overlap with other entities such as the Fashion District, Historic Core and Industrial District BIDs. Its border closely mirrors the Industrial District BID, with approximately 85% of the IDBID's area falling under SRNC's purview.



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A Community Seeking Self Determination

Efforts to create an independent Skid Row NC began in part out of frustrations amongst Skid Row residents that the community's needs were not being met by DLANC.

Nowhere is this desire for a new direction made clearer than in the Governing Board requirements listed in the [SCNC bylaws](#):

- 5 Resident Board Members, 3 of whom must be low-income or homeless
- 1 Community Advocate/Social Justice Board Member
- 1 Social Service Provider/Faith-Based Board Member
- 1 At-Large Board Member
- 1 Arts & Culture Board Member
- 1 Business Board Member

The bylaws also note a lifetime Founder Emeritus position for "General" Jeff Page, the Skid Row activist spearheading the petition.

This marks a sharp contrast with DLANC's Board composition with DLANC's Board of directors:

- 9 Resident Directors, split across DLANC's 6 sub-regions
- 1 Area Wide Homeless Resident Director
- 8 Business Stakeholder Directors, split across DLANC's 6 sub-regions
- 2 Social Service Provider Directors
- 2 Area-Wide Directors
- 1 At-Large Stakeholder

While it's clear that the SCNC Board would be in tune with the needs of Skid Row's disadvantaged community, it is less clear how well it would represent the needs of Skid Row's substantial business community. According to a 2015 Central City East Association (CCEA) study, the area is home to 600 businesses and 5,600 jobs.

Likewise, with a western border that reaches the heart of Downtown's Historic Core, it is challenging to see how the needs of residents in market rate buildings such as Mercantile Lofts, Pacific Electric Lofts, Santa Fe Lofts, San Fernando Lofts or the Medallion would be served by a neighborhood council so exclusively geared towards serving homeless and low-income residents.

A Failure of Outreach

The SRNC formation committee has drawn criticism from stakeholders for a lack of outreach about their effort to the community.

"The property owners in our district that would be directly affected by a Skid Row Neighborhood Council were not informed until about 10 days ago," commented Rena Masten Leddy, Executive Director of the Fashion District BID. "And I can't even speak on behalf of our BID on this issue because we weren't given enough time to have a board meeting to discuss the issue before the vote."

"PEOPLE ARE ONLY NOW STARTING TO REALIZE THAT"

Industrial District BID leadership was ⁶² also sharply critical of the lack of

7.9 Exhibit 9 – April 5, 2017 Kurt Knecht email to Rena Leddy et al. about sidewalk clearance

Subject: Fwd: ada access

From: Kurt Knecht

Date: 04/05/2017 10:49 AM

To: Rena Leddy <rena@fashiondistrict.org>, Estela Lopez <elopez@centralcityeast.org>, miguel nelson <miguel@marvimon.com>, KEITH BERTONNEAU <27664@lapd.lacity.org>, Aloaf Walker <26777@lapd.online>

Hi Everyone,

Below is an email from Geoffrey Straniere from the Department of Disability (DOD) recommending a 48 inch sidewalk clearance for enforcement purposes. This is beyond the ADA required 36 inches. My informal survey of the sidewalk conditions through the downtown area shows that businesses routinely crowd the sidewalks leaving 48 inches or less of space for passage. Differential enforcement with regards LAMC 42.00(a) (blocking the sidewalk) against homeless and businesses may present constitutional issues. To the extent there is more uniformity with 36 inches, there is stronger legal footing for using 36 inches as a standard at least with respect LAMC 42.00(a) enforcement.

----- Forwarded message -----
From: Geoffrey Straniere <geoffrey.straniere@lacity.org>
<mailto:geoffrey.straniere@lacity.org>>
Date: Thu, Mar 30, 2017 at 2:24 PM
Subject: Re: ada access
To: Kurt Knecht <kurt.knecht@lacity.org> <<mailto:mailto:kurt.knecht@lacity.org>>

Cc: miguel nelson <miguel@marvimon.com> <<mailto:mailto:miguel@marvimon.com>> ,
KEITH BERTONNEAU <27664@lapd.lacity.org> <<mailto:mailto:27664@lapd.lacity.org>>

Gentlemen - Thank you for your efforts and patience while we collectively work out the sidewalk concerns for Both Mr Nelson's environs and for the broader Skid Row neighborhood.

We at the DOD have been working with various City agencies to develop a clear and concise solution for circumstances where sidewalks are being constrained and effectively being made inaccessible by the presence of encampment or other transient, temporary barriers to public rights of way.

There are a number of conflicting guidelines to work through when determining the applicable standards and codes to issues of accessibility. Often, the Federal standards conflict with those of the States, and often further conflict with local ordinance or community standards that themselves may be in opposition to various public policies.

Here, we are evaluating the least restrictive, most accessible thoroughfare possible for existing sidewalks of various widths and dimensions, and the accessible routes that tie curb ramps, curb cuts, crosswalks, traffic signals and other traffic control devices to the in-place concrete flatwork, while trying to secure passable and accessible routes absent barriers human or otherwise.

There are three (3) applicable guidelines and ratified codes in play for the subject concern. the specified dimensions for each are as follows:

The American with Disabilities Act (The ADA) specifies a clear minimum width of 36" to establish an accessible sidewalk width.

The California Building Code (The CBC) specifies a clear minimum width of 48" to establish an accessible sidewalk width.

The Accessibility Guidelines for Pedestrian Facilities in the Public Right-of-Way (PROWAG) specifies a clear minimum width of 60" to establish an accessible sidewalk width.

We are sensitive to creation and preservation of a barrier-free public passage route. We are sensitive to the current sidewalk field conditions, the use of which are being constrained and ⁶⁴impassible by the presence of tents, temporary shelters, or accumulating debris

between sanitation control efforts.

In response to these concerns, the Department on Disability recommends that sidewalks remain accessible and barrier-free, without exception, in concurrence with California Building Code requirements that include definitions of accessibility for sidewalk surfaces widths as free and clear of obstruction, and of a sturdy, non-slip texture, with dimensions not less than 48" wide from street-side curb to opposing curb or structure, as is congruent with the LADBS adherence to the CBC to establish code compliance.

Unless otherwise stipulated by Los Angeles Department of Building and Safety officials or agency representatives, the DOD recommends that all associated stakeholders enforce current policy and procedure to assure that sidewalks remain open to the use and enjoyment of all, and work closely with neighbors and residents to accommodate those who rely on the sidewalks to maintain an accessible route to goods, services, or place of residency.

I am committed to assisting you with any issue identified herein, or for any other for which I might be a resource.

Thank you, -Geoffrey

Geoffrey L. Straniere

Senior Project Coordinator

Access Compliance

geoffrey.straniere@lacity.org <<mailto:geoffrey.straniere@lacity.org>>
(213) 202-2766 <tel:(213)%20202-2766>

[<mailto:geoffrey.straniere@lacity.org>](mailto:geoffrey.straniere@lacity.org)

On Wed, Mar 29, 2017 at 10:50 AM, Kurt Knecht <kurt.knecht@lacity.org> <<mailto:kurt.knecht@lacity.org>> > wrote:

Miguel,

I viewed the various neighborhoods in and around the North Sea District this morning including the Fashion District, Toy District, and Flower District.

There is nothing close to 60 inch sidewalk clearance throughout these areas. Some sidewalks don't expand that length. My concern is that enforcement of 60 inches against the tents in the North Sea District would lead to complaints of uneven enforcement against homeless. In addition as mentioned before, the ADA website cites cases with 36 inches as the standard.

Kurt

On Wed, Mar 29, 2017 at 5:57 AM, miguel neilon <miguel@marvimon.com> <<mailto:miguel@marvimon.com>> > wrote:

geoffrey, have you and kurt knecht talked yet? i'm increasingly concerned about our blocked sidewalks. i made my request for clearance on feb 24. since then, i've asked another 4 or 5 times to no avail. these sidewalks are 100% blocked. we need at least 64" clearance in order to have ample ADA access and pedestrian and delivery access.

Miguel Nelson
Marvimon Productions
310 922 6609 <tel:(310)%20922-6609>

7.10 Exhibit 10 – April 20, 2017 Rena Leddy’s April ED report to the board

Executive Director's Report – April 20, 2017

Advocacy

Neighborhood Prosecutor Meeting

Rena met with Central and Newton's Neighborhood Prosecutors. They work in City Attorney Mike Feuer's office. We discussed issues that are impacting the Fashion District such as the future of marijuana clinics, homeless encampments and sidewalk access. We will be meeting again to get more involved in any zoning or regulations related to the new laws legalizing marijuana and where shops will be located. Because the Fashion District doesn't have a lot of associations that other neighborhoods have (i.e. churches, schools, daycare centers, etc.) it may become a very attractive venue for these businesses.

Meeting with Assembly Member Miguel Santiago

Rena set up a meeting with Assembly member Santiago to introduce herself to him and discuss the various priorities of the Fashion District. They talked about homelessness and affordable housing as well as funding toward infrastructure improvements for the district. He lives in the Arts District and is very familiar with our neighborhood.

Meeting with LADOT re: San Pedro Safety Project and Streetscape Improvements

Rena met with LADOT to give input into improvements along San Pedro. As part of the City's safety program Vision Zero, San Pedro from Temple Street to 9th Street. Improvements include a installing a center left turn lane, upgrading existing crosswalks, installing a bike lane. We also discussed our strong wish that improvements would be made along 7th Street as well.

Homeless Policy Committee Meeting

Rena attended CCA's Homelessness Policy Committee, members heard from the Office of Mayor Garcetti and the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA). The Mayor's office provided the new [protocols](#) related to LAMC 56.11 regarding sidewalks and the storage of personal belongings. The new protocols will be enforced by Hope Teams and managed by the City's Bureau of Sanitation. The Hope Teams are comprised of a Los Angeles Police Department officer, sanitation worker and representative from LAHSA. They are trained to provide outreach and offer services. The teams will be deployed based on service requests to 311.

We also learned about the new [protocols](#) related to vehicle dwelling. These protocols will sunset on June 30, 2018, as the City hopes to have more permanent housing and designated safe parking programs available. Lastly, the committee discussed storage facilities for homeless individuals' belongings across the city. Currently, the only facility is in Skid Row. Thanks to the passage of Proposition HHH, the City now has the resources to fund these facilities but needs development partners. The City has released a RFP

LAHSA provided an update on the existing San Julian Center Drop-in Center in Skid Row. The center will be renovated into a 30-40 bed crisis center for homeless adults with severe mental

illness and drug addiction. It will be a place where high-acuity homeless individuals can stay while permanent housing is being identified. LAHSA also shared the progress that has been made over the last year in increasing outreach teams, transitioning shelters to 24 hour a day operations, refining the Coordinated Entry System and fully staffing up now that resources are available.

Meeting with City Attorney Mike Feuer

Rena attended CCA's Executive Committee and heard City Attorney Mike Feuer. Feuer candidly shared his views on the Trump Administration's recent actions regarding the travel ban, provided a good overview about Special Order 40, and what the term "sanctuary city" actually means. Feuer strongly supports local law enforcement and believes Los Angeles is a safer city when law enforcement can work with the immigrant community without the fear of deportation. Special Order 40 codifies that LAPD officers will not initiate a contact to inquire about immigration status. This has been a standing policy for four decades. Feuer stated if the Trump administration withholds federal funding from Los Angeles based on Special Order 40, he is ready to litigate.

City Attorney Feuer called homelessness one of the most difficult issues since there are "legitimate conflicting interests." His office is playing a significant role by establishing homeless courts and appointing a contact person within his office. The mobile homeless court is being funded by a County of L.A. grant and allows homeless individuals to do community service instead of paying for a citation. This program serviced 1,300 people in its first year.

In addition, Feuer told the audience about a new program he is launching that will encourage existing motels to convert to housing for homelessness. He stated existing motels are good opportunities because they are already built and in many neighborhoods throughout the city. Motel owners should consider this opportunity because the city will provide a secure source of rental income and funds for capital improvements which can be viewed [here](#).

Meeting with Deputy Chief Arcos

Deputy Chief Arcos shared the real challenges LAPD officers face when working with homeless individuals and how the SMART, RESET and HOPE teams are helpful. These are multi-disciplinary teams that have experts on engaging mentally ill and substance-addicted people. The teams also have benefit experts who can assist homeless individuals get connected to housing, services and other resources. Some teams also have representatives from the City of Los Angeles Sanitation Department to assist with bulky items and encampments, as well as enforcement actions for blocked entrances and exits. The Clean and Safe Teams have been working with Sanitation in cleaning up the alleys in the district.

DTLA 2040- CCA Committee Meeting

Rena, Board members Chatoff and Levy and stakeholders Taban and Yamabee are working with the CCA DTLA 2040 Committee to address the proposed changes to the Community Plan and to

7.11 Exhibit 11 – April 21, 2017 Rena Leddy’s letter to José Huizar about bike lanes



April 21, 2017

Honorable Jose Huizar
Councilmember
City of Los Angeles
200 N. Spring Street, Room 465
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: San Pedro Street and 7th Street Improvements

Dear Councilmember Huizar,

On behalf of the LA Fashion District BID, I am writing to express our full support and enthusiasm for the proposed upgrade to San Pedro Street between Temple Street and Ninth Streets with bike lanes, new high-visibility crosswalks and exclusive left-turn lanes. The proposal includes a portion of the Fashion District between 7th and 9th Streets.

We fully support the proposed improvements as we see San Pedro Street as an important thoroughfare that connects Little Tokyo, Industrial, and Fashion Districts. Furthermore, the addition of bike lanes will create safer, multi-modal transportation options in an area that is desperately lacking in transportation options other than by car.

We also want to express the need for improvements to the 7th Street corridor. This east-west thoroughfare connects the 7th and Metro Mobility Hub to Historic Core, Fashion, Industrial and the Arts Districts. We would urge the City to look at an improved DASH line, installing bicycle lanes and crosswalk improvements. We have been working with the Industrial BID and your office, which has been very responsive, to see what it takes to implement these improvements. We look forward to assisting in leading such a project along 7th Street.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rena Leddy".

Rena Leddy
Executive Director

cc: N. Hayward, CD 14
A Simon, CD 14

110 E 9th Street Suite A 1175 Los Angeles CA 90079 p (213) 488-1153 f (213) 488-5159 www.fashiondistrict.org

7.12 Exhibit 12 – May 17-23, 2017 Rena Leddy email exchange with Bryan Eck about a meeting on DTLA 2040

From: [Rena Leddy](#)
To: [Bryan Eck](#)
Subject: Re: Meeting with Fashion District
Date: Tuesday, May 23, 2017 4:22:48 PM

How about 11 am to give you a bit more time?

Rena Masten Leddy
Executive Director
LA Fashion District
(213) 488-1153

On May 23, 2017, at 2:43 PM, Bryan Eck <bryan.eck@lacity.org> wrote:

Hi Rena,

I am free, but I would need to be back to City Hall for a meeting at 1. Would that work? Perhaps we could start at 11:30?

Thanks!
Bryan

On Tue, May 23, 2017 at 11:59 AM, Rena Leddy <rena@fashiondistrict.org> wrote:

Could you meet June 15th at lunch?

From: Bryan Eck [mailto:bryan.eck@lacity.org]
Sent: Thursday, May 18, 2017 9:16 AM
To: Rena Leddy <rena@fashiondistrict.org>
Subject: Re: Meeting with Fashion District

Hi Rena,

With the exception of Monday, that week is fairly open for me. Let me know a few days and times that work.

Thanks!
Bryan

On Wed, May 17, 2017 at 2:36 PM, Rena Leddy <rena@fashiondistrict.org> wrote:

Hi Bryan,

I'd like to set up a "workshop" with property owners in the Fashion District.
Do you have time the week of June 5th?

Thanks!

Rena

Rena Masten Leddy, Executive Director

LA Fashion District

110 E 9th Street Suite A 1175

Los Angeles, CA 90079

tel: [213-488-1153 x 712](tel:213-488-1153x712)

fax: [213-488-5159](tel:213-488-5159)

cell: [310-600-3247](tel:310-600-3247)

www.fashiondistrict.org

--

BRYAN ECK
CITY PLANNER

DEPARTMENT OF CITY PLANNING



Community Planning Bureau | Downtown Community
Planning
P [213.978.1304](#)
E bryan.eck@lacity.org
200 N. Spring St., Room 667
Los Angeles, CA 90012
www.dtla2040.org

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BRYAN ECK
CITY PLANNER



DEPARTMENT OF CITY PLANNING

Community Planning Bureau | Downtown Community Planning
P [213.978.1304](#)
E bryan.eck@lacity.org
200 N. Spring St., Room 667
Los Angeles, CA 90012
www.dtla2040.org

7.13 Exhibit 13 – May 19, 2017 Rena Leddy’s May ED report to the board

Executive Director's Report – May 19, 2017

Advocacy

DTLA 2040- CCA Committee Meeting

Ren and Board members Chatoff, Keller and Levy attended the CCA DTLA 2040 Committee to address the proposed changes to the Community Plan and to ensure that the Fashion District's interests are well represented. Bryan Ek, the City Planner charged with the Community Plan update was in attendance and he welcomed our comments regarding the changes to the District. We also expressed that while parking requirements might be going away for new developers, small businesses will still need to be supported by creating accessible parking. We encouraged the City to include shared public parking garages, like those found in Old Pasadena or Santa Monica. Ek also said that Street Standards will be updated, which presents an opportunity to convert some under-performing and unsafe one-way streets back to two-way service. The group was encouraged to hear that the City hopes to move away from rigid requirements and to rely more on incentives to push forward their vision.

The public benefits or “value capture” component of DTLA 2040 was also discussed, and City staff are welcome to input on how best to structure such a program. CCA has been following the development of similar programs like that found in the Exposition Corridor Transit Neighborhood Plan, and is advocating for a simpler, more predictable approach to community benefits. Attendees also asked City Planning to be sure that any such requirements were not layered on top of existing fees or requirements such as Quimby fees or the proposed linkage fee.

Housing production, affordability, and homelessness were identified as high priorities to address in the community plan update. Suggested improvements included: added residential capacity throughout Downtown, process/bureaucracy improvements at City Hall, removal of parking minimums, and tiering projects off of the community plan's EIR. CCA members are encouraged to offer other suggestions that will promote affordability in DTLA and help reduce homelessness and the concentration of poverty.

Looking ahead, the Planning department hopes to release the community plan text in early summer, to have the new zoning code (re:code LA) ready by August/September, and to publish the draft EIR in late 2017/early 2018. CCA members are invited to the DTLA 2040 Working Group's next meeting on May 19th from 10 to 11:30 a.m., which will have a special focus on Downtown mobility.

Measure H Implementation Meeting

Measure H was approved by the voters in March 2017 and will generate approximately \$355M per year for 10 years to end homelessness. Funding is focused on the following areas: a coordinated countywide outreach program, expanding bridge and crisis housing and building the Coordinated Entry System.

Due to the great challenge of siting new homeless facilities, the County, in partnership with United Way, hired a consultant to research and develop an effective and consistent message to address community concerns.

City Market South

Rena attended two public hearings in support of the City Market South project. The restaurant Rossoblu has a quiet opening on May 11th . To see more of the project check this link: <http://urbanize.la/post/checking-city-market-south>

Tribune Real Estate Holdings Co.

Rena met with 4 members of Tribune Real Estate Holdings, including the President, last week, to give them a tour of the District. They were surprised and excited by the all the new developments.

Clean and Safe

Meetings with UPS

Staff has been meeting with UPS every other week to ensure that they provide the services that they promised. We are currently down two people but UPS feels confident that the positions will be filled quickly. Additionally, UPS is going to offer advanced training to our senior level Team members, LGBT training and they are working with Eponics to upgrade our handheld devices and data collection. We hope to have UPS contribute to the cost of the devices and data services.

Marketing & Communications

Brand Marketing Plan

Ariana has spoken to 25 various brand and marketing companies about working with the Fashion District on creating a brand marketing campaign. We sent an RFP out and have received 9 proposals. Staff narrowed the proposals to 3-4 and ask them to give a presentation to the Image and Communications committee. The Committee chose Haines & Co. We are working on the contract.

Update - Fashion District Banners

After inventorying the district and determining where light poles exist and which ones would be the most appropriate to use to install banners, the District is hiring AAA banners. We are delaying installation until the Branding Work is complete.

Marketing Stats for 1st quarter

- **Website**-Visitors: 132,732
- **Facebook**- New followers: 971; Total: 49,043
- **Twitter**-New: 205; Total Followers: 9,436
- **Instagram**-New: 1625; Total: 21,647
- **Pinterest**-New: 207; Total: 5,260
- **Snapchat**-Average views per post: 100

Little Damage on Spring Street is the Hot New Thing!

Little Damage at 700 S. Spring Street has been highlighted in Buzzfeed and Cosmopolitan Magazine recently.

See links:

https://www.buzzfeed.com/laraparker/charcoal-ice-cream-is-a-thing-now-and?utm_term=.idRne0YN0#.ljkwlM5I

<http://www.cosmopolitan.com/food-cocktails/a9571757/goth-ice-cream-trend/>

7.14 Exhibit 14 – Vanessa Kanegai’s bio at Wagstaff Worldwide



VANESSA KANEKAI

Vice President

Vanessa is equally at home wearing a fashionable pair of heels as she is exploring the jungles of Panama. Her instinct for spotting trends in food, fashion, and travel keeps her constantly hungry to explore the world around her, and innovative people who make up the Wagstaff client roster inspire her daily. Her clients benefit from her experience in the hospitality world, as well as her enthusiasm and keen eye for developing newsworthy stories. In her 12 years with Wagstaff, she has represented a wide range of clients, including Kimpton Hotels, Joie de Vivre Hotels, restaurant and lounge concepts at the W Hollywood for Innovative Dining Group, Marriott Hotels, as well as a variety of food and beverage products. At the core of her work is not only an innate feel for the needs of the client, but also an appreciation for and understanding of how the media develops stories. Vanessa is a graduate of California State University, Northridge, with a B.A. in political science and an emphasis on international relations. She lives near the beach with her family including her husband and two young girls and will attend almost any social function that involves food.

7.15 Exhibit 15 – May 25, 2017 Apparel News article featuring Rena Leddy

- [HOME](#)
- [FASHION](#)
 - [NEW LINES](#)
 - [DESIGNER PROFILES](#)
 - [RUNWAY](#)
 - [SWIM/SURF](#)
 - [EVENTS](#)
 - [TRADE SHOWS](#)
- [RETAIL](#)
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LA FASHION DISTRICT

Leading the Los Angeles Fashion District in a New Era

By Deborah Belgum | Thursday, May 25, 2017

Every day, seven tons of trash are collected in the **Los Angeles Fashion District**, up from six tons a day last year.

More trash on the streets is just one of the challenges that Rena Masten Leddy has had to encounter since becoming the new executive director last summer of the **Los Angeles Fashion District Business Improvement District**.

Other problems include the homeless who camp out on the streets and sidewalks every night and addressing crime in the district.

“Providing clean and safe services is 80 percent of our business,” said Leddy, who took over from Kent Smith, who stepped down as the executive director after heading up the BID for 17 years. When Smith first came on board, the district encompassed 56 blocks and had 300 business owners. Now it covers 100 blocks and has 1,000 business owners, who contribute funds for safety enforcement and clean-up crews as well as other services.

But as the district is transitioning into a hip area with 24-story apartment buildings replacing parking lots, artist lofts filling old garment manufacturing sites, and sophisticated restaurants and hotels moving in, the district is taking on a new feel that is shifting away from its fashion roots.

"There has been a lot of conversation around the vision for the next five, 10 and 20 years. How does the BID interact or help to create that new vision?" Leddy said.

Five years ago, no one would have thought there would be a high-end boutique hotel in the Fashion District. But the 2014 opening of the trendy **Ace Hotel** on Broadway in the historic **United Artists Building** led the way for others.

Soon to follow was the **Tuck Hotel**, a 14-room boutique hotel that opened late last year in a long-vacated building that once was a warehouse and brothel at 820 S. Spring St. in the heart of the Fashion District. Three new hotels are being built around 11th Street and Broadway: the **Downtown LA Proper Hotel** with 148 rooms at 1106 S. Broadway; the **Hoxton Hotel** with 164 rooms in the former **Los Angeles Railway Building** at 1060 S. Broadway; and a new 377-room hotel being developed by the **Onni Group**, which in 2016 purchased the 1920s-era **Western Pacific Building** at 1031 S. Broadway from Steve Needleman for \$56 million.

The list of new apartment buildings going up is staggering as is the number of old structures getting a new lease on life and being converted into living spaces.

In 2015, the Fashion District had 2,000 residential units. By 2018, another 3,500 will be added, and by 2020 there will be some 7,500 units in the 100-block area called the Fashion District BID, which started in 1996 as the first business improvement district in Los Angeles. There are now more than 950 property owners in the BID, who pay fees to support the district's annual \$4.5 million budget.

Small, hip and independent stores are quickly popping up too. Everyone is flocking to **Little Damage**, a soft-serve ice cream store at 700 S. Spring St. that constantly changes its unique flavors and has been written up in *Teen Vogue*, *Glamour* and *Cosmopolitan*. **Pop Obscure Records** at 735 S. Los Angeles St. is generating buzz for its collection of used records. And an art gallery is going up soon between Eighth and Ninth streets on Los Angeles street.

Reflecting the rise of the Fashion District, Los Angeles Street between Seventh Street and Olympic Boulevard is getting a \$1.77 million streetscape makeover with 26 new trees, sidewalk improvements, curb bump-outs and lighting at bus stops.

As the demand for traditional showroom and retail space declines, the BID and its property owners will have to figure out how to fit in with the changes. "There is a lot of stuff on our plate besides clean and safe," said Mark Chatoff, one of the founding members of the BID and president of the **California Flower Mall**.

That is one of the reasons Leddy was selected to lead the Fashion District BID. Over the past decades, she has worked on business improvement districts in Stamford, Conn.; New Haven, Conn.; and Portland, Maine; and worked as a BID consultant on projects that took her to Grand Rapids, Mich.; San Antonio, Texas; Sheboygan, Wis.; and Paia, Hawaii.

Marketing and event planning were some of her duties working with other BIDs. She organized a helium-balloon parade when she worked in Stamford. It is still being held every year right after Thanksgiving and is one of the largest helium-balloon parades in the United States.

When she worked in New Haven, a BID property owner who had converted a long-vacant building into housing had to put in a grocery store on the ground floor as part of the city's approval process. "The developer went everywhere to recruit grocery stores with no success," she said.

So she and the building owner created a food co-op that had the feel of a small **Whole Foods** market. "We created the board, the membership and watched it being built and got the people who were the vendors," she said.

Elm City Market opened in 2011 with 536 members.

For the Los Angeles Fashion District, urban renewal is happening in waves. While most of the major urban renewal and changes have evolved on the western edge of the district, the grittier eastern side is slowly being transformed into a sleek urban mecca.

Where a centuries-old wholesale produce market once stood on San Pedro and 11th streets, there is now a bustling project called **City Market South**, where 8-year-old warehouse buildings have been transformed into cool spaces. Italian eatery **RossoBlu** just opened and **The Slanted Door** of San Francisco fame is another restaurant coming to the complex, which is being filled with bars, creative office spaces and an event location covering 2.5 acres. Another 10 acres is still being redeveloped. "It is a catalytic project for that area because it is so huge," Leddy said.

Leddy was on the top of the list of finalists for the executive director job. She worked as the No. 2 person at the Fashion District BID as the managing director and had a feel for the district and its problems.

"She was trained under Kent and had a lot of experience with other BIDs around the country," said Brad Luster, a Fashion District board member and president of **Major Properties**, which owns a few buildings in the Fashion District.

Others like the new perspective she has brought to the job. "She has brought fresh energy to the board and to the BID with new ideas," said Chatoff of the California Flower Mall.

Leddy has been delegating more jobs to the board and organizing committees to tackle the various problems of homelessness and street vendors. "She is very forward looking for the district," said Mark Levy, a BID board member and president of **City Market South**. "She sees a future vision."

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RELATED STORIES

- [Interim Director Named for Fashion District BID](#)
- [Kent Smith Stepping Down as Head of Los Angeles Fashion District BID](#)
- [Anjac to Redevelop Singer Building](#)



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RUNWAY	FINANCE
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EVENTS	LEGAL
TRADE SHOWS	SPECIAL SECTIONS
RETAIL	BLOG
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MEDIA

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7.16 Exhibit 16 – March 17, 2016 FDBID minutes encouraging votes for Rena Leddy for DLANC Board



LA Fashion District BID
Board of Directors Minutes
Thursday, March 17, 2016

Board Members Present: Linda Becker, Mark Chatoff, Mark Cohen, Jorge Flores, Matthew Haverim, Steve Hirsh, Elisa Keller, Yul Kwon, Laurie Rosen, Brian Taban, John Van den Akker,

Board Members Absent: Lisa Korbatov, Darlene Kuba, Bradley Luster, Debbie Welsch

Guests Present: Jessica Whaley & Audrey Bellis – StartUp DTLA, Fabio Vasco – GTL, LLC.

The meeting convened at 11:52am.

1. **Public Comment:** None
2. **Welcome & Introductions:** Board Members, Guests, and Staff went around the room and introduced themselves.
3. **Presentation by Startup DTLA – Audrey Bellis:** Audrey Bellis presented Startup DTLA a new company backed by the City of LA & Mayor Garcetti. StartUp DTLA is a non-profit for the tech & creative community in Los Angeles. Housed in the Wells Fargo tower, it will become a community center with digital media labs, event space, office space, and a VC/Angel Investor Lounge for Tech/Creative startup companies. Currently, they are in the process of locating DTLA property owners who are willing to partner with the organization and offer office space for the Startup companies they work with. Contact Audrey at hello@StartUpDTLA.com for more information.
4. **Approval of Minutes: February 18, 2016:** Linda Becker moved to approve the minutes from February 18, 2016. Jorge Flores seconded. The motion was approved by unanimous decision.
5. **Financial Committee:** Mark Cohen reported that the Finance Committee met with CPA Fabio Vasco from GTL, LLC to go over the 2015 Annual Review. The Committee recommended the Board approve the Annual Review with the amendment of adding the word “cash” before “Investments – Other” on page 3. Board members assessed the Annual Review and discussed financial questions with Fabio Vasco.
 - a. **ACTION ITEM: Approve the Annual Review for FY '15:** Mark Chatoff moved to approve the 2015 Financial Annual Review with the amendment of adding the word “cash” before “Investments – Other” pg 3. Brian Taban seconded. The motion was approved by unanimous decision.
6. **ACTION ITEM: Letter of Support – Senate’s “No Place like Home”:** Kent Smith introduced “No Place like Home” a bi-partisan initiative that is being proposed by Kevin De Leon. The initiative would generate a 2 billion dollar bond geared toward assisting California with homelessness. The funds would be repurposed from the current “Millionaires Tax” that is set to assist with mental health issues. Given the strong correlation between homelessness and mental health the Board decided to support the initiative. Mark Chatoff moved to approve the letter of support included in the Board of Directors packet for the “No Place Like Home” initiative. Linda Becker seconded. The motion was approved by unanimous decision.

7. **ACTION ITEM: Sidewalk Repair Program Support Letter:** Kent Smith reported that Miguel Santana put together a report detailing a “Repair and Release” program to transition the responsibility of sidewalk repair from the City of LA back to the property owner. If adopted, the City would repair all LA sidewalks over the span of 20 years. Once a sidewalk is repaired it would then become the responsibility of the Property Owner to maintain. In an effort to speed the process the City has incentivized the program for Property Owners by allowing them to find their own contractor, waiving permit fees, and paying for half the cost of the repair. They will also instate a 5 year warranty on the sidewalk after a City Inspection. The incentivized program will be available for the first 3 years. Elisa Keller moved to approve the letter of support included in Board of Directors packet for the Sidewalk “Repair and Release” Program. Laurie Rosen seconded. The motion was approved by unanimous decision.
8. **Operations Committee Report:** Kent Smith reported that Captain Howard Lesley, who came from the LAPD Wilshire Division, will be taking over as Captain for Central Division. He also reported that we are still dealing with the issue of graffiti vandalism but are working closely with the City Attorney’s office to prosecute cases that arise in the Fashion District.
9. **Image & Communications Committee Report:** Rena Leddy reported that the Committee has started discussing the Urban Dinner Party and decided it will be held in October. The Fashion District is also working in conjunction with Downtown Center BID & FIDM to establish #FashionFridays, which would highlight Fashion vendors spanning the two Districts. Lastly, the Fashion District has started its 2016 Prom Campaign with promotion and marketing in full effect.
10. **Executive Director’s Report:** Kent Smith reported that the Neighborhood Integrity Act efforts have been suspended until March 2017, with Build LA set to move forward this November. The timeline for installing Metro’s bike stations is set and will begin in June. Metro will be placing 7 stations throughout the Fashion District, each station will absorb 3 street parking spaces. Kent also announced that there will be a hearing for SB876 March 29th in Sacramento.
11. **New Business:** Kent Smith announced that Rena Leddy is running for the Fashion District Representative for DLANC and property owners/tenants should make sure they vote.
12. **Adjourn:** The meeting adjourned at 1:38pm.

7.17 Exhibit 17 – April 21, 2016 FDBID Executive Director’s report encouraging votes for Rena Leddy for DLANC

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

April 21, 2016

ADMINISTRATION

Vote for Rena Leddy in DLANC Election! It is a contested race.

Rena Leddy, LA Fashion District BID Managing Director, is running for the Downtown Neighborhood Council's business seat, representing the BID. There is one other person running against her. This year, the elections are being held online and in person. In order to vote online, you must first register to do so.

Register NOW and BEFORE April 28 at www.empowerla.org/vrp.

- You will need to upload a form of ID and some form of proof that you work, live, and/or own a business in the neighborhood.
- Elections run online between April 14 and May 5, 2016.

California Downtown Association Succeeds in Stopping SB 876

The California Downtown Association worked with BIDs, and downtown organizations around the state, including the Fashion District, to put a stop to the proposed legislation SB 876, Homelessness. This bill would have been another version of the "Right to Rest Act" that we've defeated two other times in the last three years. The Senator who proposed the bill is termed out at the end of 2016. This bill proposed preserving the homeless' right to live and eat on the streets and sidewalks of our cities. The bill did not offer any practical solutions towards addressing homelessness. Instead it would have prohibited cities, counties and municipal agencies that receive state funds from regulating resting in public spaces. The bill would also have dramatically hindered a local municipality's ability to maintain parks, sidewalks and other public spaces in a safe and clean manner.

City Council Sets New Limits on the Belongings of Homeless

This week City Council revised the law known as Ordinance 56.11 to allow people to have only as much stuff as they can fit into a 60 gallon container. City Councilman, Joe Buscaino said the measure balanced the City's need for safe and clean streets with homeless people's personal property rights. Under the revised law, the homeless can be cited or arrested for a misdemeanor if they fail to clear the sidewalks or fail to take down their tents/encampments between 6:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m. The City will cite a homeless person if they have excessive personal property after providing 24 hours' notice. The City will store the items for 90 days, during which time the owners can claim the items. With no warning, the City can seize and impound a tent that is not taken down during the 6:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. time frame. They will be allowed to erect tents after 9:00 p.m. They can leave their tents up if the weather drops below 50 degrees. Bulky or contaminated items can be seized and discarded without warning. This revised ordinance is in response to the many encampments that have crepted up all over the city, not just downtown. There has been a 20% increase in homelessness in the last two years in Los Angeles.

7.18 Exhibit 18 – May 19, 2016 FDBID Executive Director’s report mentioning Rena Leddy’s election to DLANC Board

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

May 19, 2016

ADMINISTRATION

Kent Smith Announces Retirement from the BID

On April 28th, Kent Smith announced his retirement from the Fashion District BID. His last day is July 28th. The Board of Directors has created an Ad Hoc Committee to facilitate the search for an Executive Director and transition.

Rena Leddy wins DLANC Election!

In a contested race, Rena Leddy, LA Fashion District BID Managing Director, won the Neighborhood Council's business seat, representing the BID. She begins representing the business community at the July Meeting.

BID Staff Attend the California Downtown Association Conference in Oakland

Last week, Kent Smith, Rena Leddy and Ariana Gomez attended the CDA conference in Oakland with about 120 other downtown and district professionals. There were sessions on BID renewal, marketing, retail, homelessness, and place making to name a few. Kent Smith moderated a panel on advocacy and the role of BIDs.

Retail Consultant Begins Work

Last week, MJB Consulting began work in and around the Santee Alley as part of the Retail Study that Santee Alley and the Fashion District BID are working on. The study will include:

- Identifying of trends in Retail
- Identifying trends in Retail in Los Angeles, Downtown and specifically Fashion District
- Understanding what these trends mean for Santee Alley and adjacent retail streets Given how retail in downtown, Los Angeles and Globally has been evolving
- Understanding what Santee Alley and the surrounding neighborhood could do to take action, given how retail in downtown, the city as a whole and globally has been evolving

A strategy will be outlined in two ways:

- If we do nothing, this is what the neighborhood will look like in 5 years.
- If we want to do something to alter the projection or situation, here's what the neighborhood could look like.

The final product will provide a summary detailing reasons for recent challenges, proposal of viable options for re-tenanting or repositioning and outlining relevant considerations. There will be several more visits from MJB and additional meetings will be set up with property owners.

7.19 Exhibit 19 – June 13, 2017 DLANC Board of Directors minutes



BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING MINUTES (DRAFT)

DOWNTOWN LOS ANGELES NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL REGULAR AND SPECIAL BOARD MEETINGS MINUTES (DRAFT)

Meeting Date: June 13, 2017

Meeting Time: 6:30 PM

Meeting Location: Los Angeles Theatre, 630 S. Broadway

Contact: patti.berman@dlanc.com for more information

(Note: A special Board occurs during this regular Board meeting. Those notes are included here.)

1. Call to Order / Roll Call

The meeting began at 6:38 pm with 15 Board members present.

Attending Board Members:

Patti Berman, President

Robert Newman, Vice President

Wendall Blassingame

Arianna Nussdorf

Michael Delijani (Ed Baney is alternate tonight)

Beverly Christiansen

Estela Lopez (arrived late)

Nate Johnson

Rena Leddy (arrived late)

Amber Maltbie

Josh Kreger

Dan Curnow (new alternate Lock Hoffman is sworn in during meeting)

Rufus Washington (Betsy Starman is alternate tonight)

Jacob Van Horn

Priscilla Bejarano

Ian Chi-Young

Scott Bytof

Nathaniel Cormier

Amara Ononiwu (Angie Rodriguez, who is the alternate tonight, arrived late)

Non-Attending Board Members:

Eduardo Alvarado

Josh Albrektsen

Andrew Douglas

James Todd

Kristina Ferris

Patti Berman	Present	Kristina Ferris	Absent
Josh Albrekton	Absent	Estella Lopez	Present
Andrew Douglas	Absent	Nate Johnson	Present
Wendell Blassingame	Present	Rena Leddy	Present
Ian Chi-Young	Present	Amara Ononiwu (alt.)	Absent
Ariana Nussdorf	Present	Michael Delijani (alt.)	Present
Jacob Van Horn	Present	Amber Maltbie	Present
Priscilla Bejarano	Present	Josh Kreger	Present
James Todd	Absent	Eduardo Alvarado	Absent
Scott Bytof	Present	Robert Newman	Present
Nate Cormier	Present	Rufus Washington (alt.)	Present
Beverly Christiansen	Present	Dan Curnow (alt.)	Present

Parliamentarian Ivan Speigel and Neighborhood Council Advocate Mario Hernandez are also here.

(Note: Rena Leddy arrived at 6:40pm.)

1. Swearing in of vetted alternates.

Dan Curnow alternate Vlad Kopman is sworn.

(Note: Nate Cormier arrived at 6:49pm.)

2. Speakers

3. Declarations of Ex Parte communications

None

4. General Public Comment

5. MOTION: The Board shall approve the Minutes from 05-2017.

Wendall Blassingame made the motion. Ian Chi-Young seconded.

Corrections include the misspelling of Board member names for Arianna Nussbaum and Jasmine Ramos, the alternate for Rena Leddy.

VOTE to approve amended May minutes

15-0-2

PASSED

Patti Berman	N/A	Kristina Ferris	
Josh Albrekton		Estella Lopez	Yes
Andrew Douglas		Nate Johnson	Yes
Wendell Blassingame	Yes	Rena Leddy (alt.)	Yes
Ian Chi-Young	Yes	Amara Ononiwu	
Ariana Nussdorf	Yes	Michael Delijani (alt.)	Yes
Jacob Van Horn	Abstain	Amber Maltbie	Abstain

Priscilla Bejarano	Yes	Josh Kreger	Yes
James Todd		Eduardo Alvarado	
Scott Bytof	Yes	Robert Newman	Yes
Nate Cormier	Yes	Rufus Washington (alt.)	Yes
Beverly Christiansen	Yes	Dan Curnow (alt.)	Yes

6. President's Report
7. Consent Calendar: **
 - a. None
8. Old Business
 - a. None
9. New Business:
 - a. Financial Issues:

RECESS REGULAR MEETING AT 7:02PM

BEGIN SPECIAL MEETING at 7:02pm

ii. MOTION: The Board will approve the additional expenditure of \$783.20 to Swag Promo for Outreach materials. Moneys to come out of the Outreach budget.

Beverly Christiansen made the motion. Robert Newman seconded.

DRAFT

VOTE
17-0-0-1
PASSED

Patti Berman	N/A	Kristina Ferris	
Josh Albrekton		Estella Lopez	Yes
Andrew Douglas		Nate Johnson	Yes
Wendell Blassingame	Yes	Rena Leddy (alt.)	Yes
Ian Chi-Young	Yes	Amara Ononiwu (alt.)	Yes
Ariana Nussdorf	Yes	Michael Delijani (alt.)	Yes
Jacob Van Horn	Yes	Amber Maltbie	Yes
Priscilla Bejarano	Yes	Josh Kreger	Yes
James Todd		Eduardo Alvarado	
Scott Bytof	Yes	Robert Newman	Yes
Nate Cormier	Yes	Rufus Washington (alt.)	Yes
Beverly Christiansen	Yes	Dan Curnow (alt.)	Ineligible

3. Adjourn

Jacob Van Horn made the motion to adjourn the Special Meeting. Robert Newman seconded.

END SPECIAL MEETING AT 7:07PM

RESUME REGULAR MEETING AT 7:07PM

9. New Business -- REVISITED

a. Financial Issues:

i. MOTION: The Board approves the May 2017 Monthly Expenditure Reports

Beverly Christiansen made the motion. Wendall Blassingame seconded.

(Note: Angie Rodriguez, the alternate for Amara Ononiwu, arrived at 7:10pm.)

VOTE for MER

17-0-1-1

PASSED

(Note: New alternate Lock Hoffman hasn't completed financial training so he is ineligible to vote on financial motions.)

Patti Berman	N/A	Kristina Ferris	
Josh Albrekton		Estella Lopez	Yes
Andrew Douglas		Nate Johnson	Yes
Wendell Blassingame	Yes	Rena Leddy (alt.)	Yes
Ian Chi-Young	Yes	Amara Ononiwu (alt.)	Yes
Ariana Nussdorf	Yes	Michael Delijani (alt.)	Yes
Jacob Van Horn	Yes	Amber Maltbie	Yes
Priscilla Bejarano	Yes	Josh Kreger	Yes
James Todd		Eduardo Alvarado	
Scott Bytof	Yes	Robert Newman	Yes
Nate Cormier	Yes	Rufus Washington (alt.)	Yes
Beverly Christiansen	Yes	Dan Curnow (alt.)	Ineligible

ii. MOTION: The Board will approve the additional expenditure of \$657.18 to Swag Promo for Outreach materials.

President Berman said that she is withdrawing this motion because it is inaccurate.

iii. Selection of Budget Advocates

Scott Bytof discussed the selection of Budget Advocate representatives and the June 24 is Budget Day event. Betsey Starman and Robert Newman expressed interest in attending the event and serving as Budget Advocate.

VOTE for Betsy Starman and Robert Newman by affirmation

18-0-0

PASSED

Patti Berman	N/A	Kristina Ferris	
--------------	-----	-----------------	--

Josh Albrektson		Estella Lopez	Yes
Andrew Douglas		Nate Johnson	Yes
Wendell Blassingame	Yes	Rena Leddy (alt.)	Yes
Ian Chi-Young	Yes	Amara Ononiwu (alt.)	Yes
Ariana Nussdorf	Yes	Michael Delijani (alt.)	Yes
Jacob Van Horn	Yes	Amber Maltbie	Yes
Priscilla Bejarano	Yes	Josh Kreger	Yes
James Todd		Eduardo Alvarado	
Scott Bytof	Yes	Robert Newman	Yes
Nate Cormier	Yes	Rufus Washington (alt.)	Yes
Beverly Christiansen	Yes	Dan Curnow (alt.)	Yes

b. Outreach

- i. REPORT
None

c. Government Liaison

- i. CIS "In Support of" Council File No. 15-1088-S1 (Matching Funds Rate Increase)

1. CF Summary:

a. File opened January 10, 2017, with referral to Rules, Elections, Intergovernmental Relations, and Neighborhoods Committee but item not set for agenda

b. The file would instruct the Ethics Commission to prepare an ordinance increasing the matching fund rates from the current 2:1 match in primary elections and 4:1 match in general elections to 6:1 in both primary and general elections for all candidates who qualify for matching funds. The Ethics Commission would be further instructed to study whether maximum per-contribution matches should be lowered. The City Administrative Officer is directed to report on the impacts these changes would have on the General Fund.

2. Arguments for CF:

a. DLANC and GLC have heard about the CF from Sylvia Moore at Common Cause, who provided numerous materials demonstrating the propriety of increasing matching fund rates in local elections in LA.

b. The CF motion has been under consideration for several years (under a different CF number), and it is time for the City to at least schedule a vote on the CF.

c. Studies of the history of matching fund rates in LA, as well as empirical evidence from New York City, demonstrate the CF would likely encourage voter turnout by incentivizing candidate engagement with small, local donors. This could increase depth of candidate pool, which is generally an issue in local

elections (contrary to Downtown's recent experience with the CD-34 congressional election).

d. While the CF, on its own, might not radically transform our campaign system, it is an important step to take. The Citizens United decision has severely hamstrung any legal efforts to minimize discrepancies in campaign spending. The proposals in this CF could make a meaningful difference and, at the very least, demonstrate the City's commitment to creatively empowering voters and new candidates.

3. Arguments against CF:

a. The CF could have a limited impact on the various local elections, especially given more significant issues like entrenched incumbents and private campaign donations.

b. The City's previous experience with changing matching fund rates does not guarantee any positive benefits. If successful, the CF could cost a significant amount of money, while diluting the candidate pool.

4. Motion: The Downtown Los Angeles Neighborhood Council ("DLANC") should submit a Community Impact Statement in support of Council File 15-1088-S1. The proposals to increase matching fund rates and decrease maximum per-contribution limits could have a meaningful effect on political diversity and voter engagement. At the very least, the City should schedule Council File 15-1088-S1 for immediate consideration by the proper Committees and City Council. DLANC should submit the letter posted with this Agenda in support of the Community Impact Statement.

Nate Johnson made the motion. Jacob Van Horn seconded.

**VOTE
18-0-0
PASSED**

Patti Berman	N/A	Kristina Ferris	
Josh Albrektson		Estella Lopez	Yes
Andrew Douglas		Nate Johnson	Yes
Wendell Blassingame	Yes	Rena Leddy (alt.)	Yes
Ian Chi-Young	Yes	Amara Ononiwu (alt.)	Yes
Ariana Nussdorf	Yes	Michael Delijani (alt.)	Yes
Jacob Van Horn	Yes	Amber Maltbie	Yes
Priscilla Bejarano	Yes	Josh Kreger	Yes
James Todd		Eduardo Alvarado	
Scott Bytof	Yes	Robert Newman	Yes
Nate Cormier	Yes	Rufus Washington (alt.)	Yes
Beverly Christiansen	Yes	Dan Curnow (alt.)	Yes

d. Planning and Land Use Committee (all letters are in the packet) CUB letters of support will be sent to the Los Angeles City Department of Planning, Office of Zoning Administration, unless otherwise noted in item.

i. Presentation by: Monica Vu

Case Number: ENV-2015-1159-EAF, CPC-2015-1160-DA, CPC-2015-1158-TDR-MCUP-CUX-SPR

Project Location: 1020 S. Figueroa St. Los Angeles, CA 90015

Project Description/Request: Project supported by DLANC on 7/14/15. Design modified as follows: Overall development floor area reduced by 24%, residential units reduced by approximately 33%, commercial uses reduced by approximately 31%, digital signage reduced by approximately 63% and construction impact reduced by eliminating 32 story tower.

MOTION: "DLANC shall submit a letter in support of the Applicant's modified design in Planning Case No. ENV-2015-1159-EAF, CPC-2015-1160-DA, CPC-2015-1158-TDR-MCUP-CUX-SPR. Note that the project has previously received support from DLANC on July 14, 2015, and this is a support for a modified design."

(PLUC Vote Count: Yes: 8; No: 0; Abstention: 1; Absent: 1; Recused: 0)

ii. Presentation by: John Howland

Case Number: CPC-2013-4050-GPA-ZC-HD-SN-CU-MCUP-ZV-SPR, CPC-2013-4051-DA

Project Location: 1057 S San Pedro St, Los Angeles, CA 90015

Project Description: Note, Project was previously supported by DLANC in 2013. This request is for an updated support letter. The Applicant is seeking to redevelop the site with a mixed use project consisting of educational, office, residential, hotel, entertainment and retail uses. The project is designed to achieve a maximum FAR of 4.10:1 which generates approximately 1.79 million square feet of floor area.

Request: The Applicant, The City Market of Los Angeles, requests approval of the following discretionary actions:

1. Pursuant to California Government Code Sections 65864-65869.5, the Applicant respectfully requests approval of a Development Agreement ("DA") for a period of 25 years.
2. Pursuant to LAMC Section 11.5.6, as authorized by the Los Angeles Charter Section 555, a General Plan Amendment to change the land use designation from Light Manufacturing ("LM") to Regional Commercial ("RC") and apply the existing General Plan Footnote No. 4 to the Project Site which will create consistency with the Project scope and the proposed C2 zone change
3. Pursuant to LAMC Section 12.32 F & Q, a Vesting Zone Change from M2-2D to [Q]C2-2 to permit the construction of the project described below, including provisions for the application of the Land Use Equivalency Program.
4. Pursuant to LAMC Section 12.32 F, the Applicant respectfully requests approval of a Height District change to apply a new 'D' limitation to modify the allowable FAR from 3:1 to 4.1:1 below.

5. Pursuant to LAMC Section 12.32 S, a Supplemental Use District to permit a sign district covering the Property in order to enhance the theme and unique qualities of the entire Project.

6. Pursuant to LAMC Section 12.24 W 19 a Conditional Use Permit to allow FAR averaging in a unified development not to exceed 4.1:1 FAR over the entire Site. However, a maximum FAR of 4.43:1 will be permitted on Block 1, 3.40:1 FAR on Block 2, 2.43:1 FAR on Block 3 and 7.19:1 of Block 4.

7. Pursuant to LAMC Section 16.05, the Site Plan Review Site Plan Review for a project

- a. That meets the provisions specified in the LAMC Section 12.24 U14 (c) (2) as a major development project, and
- b. That results in an increase of 50,000 gross square feet or more of nonresidential floor areas and/or 50 or more dwelling units or guest rooms

8. Pursuant to LAMC Section 12.24 W 1, a Master Conditional Use Permit for the off- and on-site sales of alcoholic beverages in retail establishments, bars and restaurants. Specifically, the Applicant is requesting:

- a. 3 total off-site sales permits with 2 offering a full line of alcohol and 1 offering beer and wine.
- b. 20 on-site sales permits with 17 offering a full line of alcohol and 3 offering beer and wine.

9. Pursuant to LAMC Section 17.01 and 17.15, the Applicant respectfully requests approval of a Vesting Airspace Tentative Tract Map to permit the merger and re-subdivision of the land and the creation of five ground lots containing 14 air space lots necessary to facilitate the development of a mixed-use project defined below.

- a. Lot Configurations
 - i. Block 1: consisting of 1 ground Lot, Airspace 8 and approximately 240,071 square foot of lot area.
 - ii. Block 2: consisting of 2 ground lot, 6 air space lots and approximately 132,399 square feet of lot area
 - iii. Block 3: consisting of 1 ground lot and approximately 16,600
 - iv. Block 4: consisting of 1 ground lot, no air spaces lots and approximately 22,885 square feet of lot area.
- b. The Applicant is also requesting partial vacation of the alley located within Block 2 of the site which is surrounded by San Pedro, San Julian, 12th and 11th Streets.
- c. Merge that portion of San Julian Street (Approx. 2 ft.) which is over dedicated.

d. Reduction from Advisory Agency's Parking Policy to allow parking to be calculated based on LAMC. In addition to the specific discretionary actions identified above, other discretionary approvals may be required from the Lead Agency and various responsible agencies, including but not limited to demolition including street trees, grading, excavation, and foundation permits, and haul route approval.

In addition to the specific discretionary actions identified above, other discretionary approvals may be required from the Lead Agency and various responsible agencies, including but not limited to demolition including street trees, grading, excavation, and foundation permits, and haul route approval.

MOTION: "DLANC shall submit a letter in continued support of all of Applicant's (9) requests in Planning Case No. CPC-2013-4050-GPA-ZC-HD-SN-CU-MCUP-ZV-SPR, CPC-2013-4051-DA."

(PLUC Vote Count: Yes: 9; No: 0; Abstention: 0; Absent: 1, Recused: 0)

iii. Presentation by: Christopher Murray
Case Number: ENV-2017-1288-CE, DIR-2017-1287-SPP
Project Location: 910 S Broadway Los Angeles, CA 90015
Project Description: The Applicant, Colossal Media Group, is requesting a Project Permit Compliance for a hand-painted Secondary Façade sign on the north building elevation of approximately 1,417 SF within Broadway Sign Supplemental Use District Specific Plan. Request: Pursuant to LAMC Section 11.5.7 and in accordance with the provisions of the Historic Broadway Sign Supplemental Use District, a Plan Permit Compliance approval to construct, use, and maintain an approximately 1,417-square foot Secondary Façade Sign with changeable copy (content of the sign will be changed periodically during the life of the requested grant) on an existing seven-story building, which is approximately 85-foot in height, and located within the [Q]C2-4D-CDO-SN Zone at 908-910 S. Broadway within the Central City community of the City of Los Angeles. No change to the footprint of floor area of the existing building is proposed as part of this request.

Recommended action: "DLANC shall submit a letter in support of the Applicant's request in Planning Case No. ENV-2017-1288-CE, DIR-2017-1287-SPP with the condition that the changeable copy will always adhere to the Historic Broadway Sign Guidelines. Note that no exceptions to Broadway Sign Guidelines are being requested by Applicant."

(PLUC Vote Count: Yes: 8; No: 0; Abstention: 0; Absent: 1, Recused: 1)

iv. Presentation by: Elizabeth Peterson
Case Number: ENV-2017-1459-CE, ZA-2017-1458-CUB
Project Location: 855 S Broadway, Los Angeles, CA 90014
Project Description/Request: Pursuant to LAMC 12.24-W.1, Applicant requests a conditional use to permit the continued on-site sales and consumption of beer and wine in conjunction with an existing 1,404 SF ground floor café having 36 interior seats with an additional 8 seats on 124 SF of uncovered outdoor dining with hours of operation from 6am to 2am daily.

MOTION: "DLANC shall submit a letter in support of the Applicant's request in Planning Case No. ENV-2017-1459-CE, ZA-2017-1458-CUB."

(PLUC Vote Count: Yes: 9; No: 0; Abstention: 0; Absent: 1, Recused: 0)

v. Presentation by: Thea Trindle

Case Number: ZA-2017-1843-CUB

Project Location: 108 W 2nd St #105-106, Los Angeles, CA 90012

Project Description/Request: Pursuant to LAMC 12.24 W-1, A conditional use permit to allow for the sale of a full line of alcoholic beverages for on-site consumption in conjunction with an existing 5,282 SF restaurant with 64 indoor seats on the ground floor, a 500 SF mezzanine with 26 indoor seats, and a 340 SF enclosed, outdoor patio in the public right of way with 32 seats. Proposed hours of operation are 7:00AM-10:00PM on the proposed patio).

MOTION: "DLANC shall submit a letter in support of the Applicant's request in Planning Case No. ZA-2017-1843-CUB."

(PLUC Vote Count: Yes: 8; No: 0; Abstention: 0; Absent: 1, Recused: 1)

President Berman said that she wants to bundle these land use motions.

Scott Bytof made a motion to bundle all of the land use items. Rena Leddy seconded.

**VOTE
18-0-0
PASSED**

Patti Berman	N/A	Kristina Ferris	
Josh Albrektson		Estella Lopez	Yes
Andrew Douglas		Nate Johnson	Yes
Wendell Blassingame	Yes	Rena Leddy (alt.)	Yes
Ian Chi-Young	Yes	Amara Ononiwu (alt.)	Yes
Ariana Nussdorf	Yes	Michael Delijani (alt.)	Yes
Jacob Van Horn	Yes	Amber Maltbie	Yes
Priscilla Bejarano	Yes	Josh Kreger	Yes
James Todd		Eduardo Alvarado	
Scott Bytof	Yes	Robert Newman	Yes
Nate Cormier	Yes	Rufus Washington (alt.)	Yes
Beverly Christiansen	Yes	Dan Curnow (alt.)	Yes

- e. Executive Committee
- f. Urban Needs and Resources
- g. Livability
- h. AD HOC

Robert Newman said that the Ad Hoc Committee's first meeting will be June 28. James Woods Center. 6pm. All stakeholders will be invited.

- i. REPORT
 - i. Officer Reports
 - ii. VP Administration
 - iii. Secretary
- j. Representative Reports
 - iii. Homeless

Robert Newman aid that the first meeting for the Homeless Committee was on May 31. The City administrator office representative was there.

10. General Public Comment
11. Other Board Member Announcements
12. Next Meeting Tuesday July 11, 2017
13. Adjourn

Robert Newman made the motion. Ian Chi-Young seconded.

The meeting ended at 7:43pm.

DRAFT

7.20 Exhibit 20 – Los Angeles City Attorney advice for NCs on conflicts of interest

Congress of Neighborhoods
Office of the City Attorney - Neighborhood Council Advice Division

STATE AND CITY CONFLICT OF INTEREST LAWS:
INFORMATION FOR BOARD MEMBERS OF NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCILS

Conflict of Interest Laws Governing Neighborhood Councils

Board members of Neighborhood Councils who are given governmental decision-making authority, must comply with the following conflict of interest laws: The Political Reform Act of 1974, as amended (Government Code § 81000, et seq.), Government Code § 1090 et seq., and the common-law conflict of interest rules. Because of the enactment of Ordinance No. 176477¹, Neighborhood Councils are not required to have a conflict of interest code, required to fill out the state (Form 700) disclosure statement and no longer are subject to the City's Governmental Ethics Ordinance (Los Angeles Municipal Code § 49.5.1 et seq.) However, compliance with the rules of these state laws is still required. A brief explanation of these laws follows.

The Political Reform Act.

The Political Reform Act is a state law that sets up rules and regulations to ensure that governmental officials are free from bias caused by their own financial interests and act in an impartial matter.

Basic Prohibition. Under the Act, public officials are disqualified from participating in government decisions in which they have a financial interest. There are five basic tests to ascertain whether you might have a financial interest under the Act. When all of the following are true, you would have a disqualifying interest:

- you are a public official;
- you make, participate in making, or use your official position to influence the making of a decision;
- you have a statutorily defined economic interest (your finances or those of members of your immediate family, investment in a business, interest in real property, source of income or gifts, management position in a business) that may be affected by the decision;
- it is reasonably foreseeable that the decision will have a *material financial effect* on your economic interest;
- the decision will affect your economic interest in a way that is distinguishable from its effect on the public generally or a significant segment of the public.

See, Los Angeles Administrative Code § 2.20.1

A neighborhood council member who is disqualified must abstain from making, participating in making or attempting to use his or her official position in any way to influence the government decision.

Persons Covered. The Act treats “members of local governmental agencies” as public officials. Public officials who make, participate in the making of, or influence or attempt to influence a governmental decision must comply with the Act’s provisions. Neighborhood Councils are potentially covered by the Political Reform Act because the City Attorney has concluded that Neighborhood Councils are local governmental agencies. Thus, the City Attorney concluded, if Neighborhood Councils are delegated the authority to make certain “governmental decisions,” such as “hiring of staff, entering into contracts for goods or services or control over funds in the City budget” then the board members of those Neighborhood Councils would be “public officials” for the purposes of the Act.²

Participation In Decision-Making. Neighborhood Councils are advisory bodies. Their role is to make recommendations to the various City decision-makers, including City boards, commissions, City Council committees and the City Council. City Charter § 907. This role falls within the “make, participate in making, or attempting to influence a government decision” provision of the Act. Once a neighborhood council board member has been delegated the authority to make “governmental decisions,” as enumerated above, on behalf of its neighborhood council, even the member’s votes on “non-governmental” or purely advisory recommendations will be subject to the conflict-of-interest provisions.³

Economic Interests Covered. What is a financial interest is often complicated and fact-based, but there are basic types of economic interests that the Act covers:

- a business entity in which you, or a member of your immediate family, owns an investment or in which you are an officer or director or hold a management position in that business entity;
- real property in which you, or a member of your immediate family, owns an interest;
- any person or entity that is a source of income or loans to you or your spouse; or
- any person or entity that has given you a gift within the last year.

² Making *recommendations* as to whether the City should or should not enter into a contract will also trigger the Act’s requirements. In this instance, this means making a recommendation about a *specific* contract which is coming before the City for action or recommending qualifications/specifications for a city contract. Merely advising the City as to whether, for example, the City should pave a certain street or install lighting, which decisions might ultimately result in the City entering into a contract for those services, would not trigger the Political Reform Act requirements for the neighborhood council providing this advice.

³ Thus, a board member who makes “governmental decisions” must also be cognizant of, and comply with, the disqualification rules even when making a purely advisory recommendation, for example, to a City Council Committee or Area Planning Commission regarding a conditional use permit for a project located within the boundaries of that Neighborhood Council.